

**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK  
GRANT PROGRAM**



**ANNUAL ACTION PLAN  
YEAR 36**

**JULY 1, 2019 – JUNE 30, 2020**

**Plan prepared by:**

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**City of Northampton  
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**[www.northamptonma.gov](http://www.northamptonma.gov)**

## **Executive Summary**

### **AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)**

#### **1. Introduction**

The City of Northampton is pleased to submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Year 5 of the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan for 2015-2020. For the program year July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020, the City will receive \$670,267 for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. This document outlines how the City will allocate and expend these funds. The City is committed to working with community partners to assist those most in need.

Included in the Attachments, is a sampling of the myriad of activities occurring locally and regionally to further the goals of addressing homelessness and creating safe, healthy, affordable and accessible living environments for all.

#### **2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan**

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The City will allocate the funds as follows:

##### **Housing Activities**

Homeownership Center - Valley CDC \$33,000 for financial assistance to First Time Homebuyers

Housing Rehabilitation Program - Pioneer Valley Planning Commission \$343,905 (\$177,674 new year funds; \$166,231 carried over from last year)

Village Hill Affordable Housing Projects - \$150,000 (carried over from last year) for acquisition of parcel for development of rental units for families

##### **Public Facilities / Access**

Property Improvements/handicap accessibility improvements (4 sites) - Northampton Housing Authority \$95,000

##### **Public Infrastructure / Access**

30 Sidewalk Wheelchair Ramps - \$110,000

**Economic Development**

Micro-Business Assistance Program - Valley CDC \$20,000

**Public Services**

11 Social Service Programs \$100,540 ( with \$175.00 program income from prior year)

**Administration and Planning** \$134,053

Administration of CDBG Program and Housing and Community Development activities

**Total Program Year Budget**

2019-2020 Award \$670,267

Estimated Carry Over Funds \$ 316,406

Reallocated Funds \$ 25,780

**Total \$1,012,453**

**3. Evaluation of past performance**

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

The 2018-2019 CDBG Program Year was extremely successful in addressing a myriad of City community development goals. The Housing Rehabilitation Program continued to operate smoothly, improving the homes of single family income eligible residents for years to come; the 82 Bridge Street project through Valley CDC saw the relocation of the existing tenants and the beginning of construction to convert the 15 existing units to enhanced SRO's with 16 units to be added in a new building addition; Valley CDC also celebrated the opening of the Lumber Yard Apartments and welcomed 55 residents into a beautiful new building in the heart of the downtown; Valley CDC and The Community Builders moved forward on the construction bids for the 12 units proposed for 35 Village Hill Road and submitted the One Stop Application to the State for the Village Hill North project (53 affordable rental units); Habitat for Humanity completed the final home at the Garfield Ave. development and started site work and housing construction on 4 lots at the Glendale Road site creating 5 energy efficient affordable homeownership opportunities for people unable to access the market otherwise; and public services promoting housing

stability, food security, economic empowerment and improved health were delivered efficiently and compassionately to hundreds of Northampton residents.

#### **4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Citizen participation is on-going throughout the year. Monthly meetings of the Next Step Collaborative, the Northampton Housing Partnership and the committees of the Regional Network to End Homelessness provide venues for input and exchange on a monthly basis. The Network sponsored three trainings for the region on Racial Equity in the Homeless Services System, one on How to Run and Awesome Shelter and held a Homeless Resource Fair, bringing hundreds of providers, consumers and more than a dozen legislators together to advance this work in our Valley.

#### **5. Summary of public comments**

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

See minutes of the public hearings as attached. Also included in the Attachments is a list of participants from the Stakeholder/Focus Group/Public Forum sessions held as part of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing citizen participation process.

#### **6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them**

There was one written submission, which was accepted, during the CDBG public hearing process. It is included in the attachments. There was no public input received through the Citizen Participation process of this Action Plan that was not taken into consideration.

#### **7. Summary**

## PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

### 1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	NORTHAMPTON	
CDBG Administrator		Office of the Mayor
HOPWA Administrator		
HOME Administrator		
HOPWA-C Administrator		

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

### Narrative (optional)

The City of Northampton administers the Community Development Block Grant Program through the Office of the Mayor. Staffing consists of the CDBG Director/Housing and Community Development Planner, and the CDBG Administrator who is responsible for the fiscal management of the program.

### Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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## **AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)**

### **1. Introduction**

Northampton's community development strategy is informed by extensive local and regional collaboration. Through active engagement, the City listens to and learns from people receiving services, people doing the work to deliver services and those who face barriers trying to access services.

Western MA Network to End Homelessness: Regional network comprised of all four western MA counties formed to implement, through an open and inclusive process valuing the diversity of our communities, a regional system that strives to end family and individual homelessness by providing housing and support services; prevention, diversion, rapid re-housing strategies and stabilization of at-risk households. Monthly meetings each for Individual, Family, Veteran's, Unaccompanied Youth and Victims of Domestic Violence services, overseen by a Steering Committee. City CDBG Director serves as Co-Chair of the Network.

Council of Social Service Agencies of Hampshire County: A membership organization of non-profit providers working together for more than 30 years to support the coordination and effectiveness of human services in the county. Monthly meetings are held focusing on resources, funding opportunities, community education, outreach and advocacy.

Three County Rural Continuum of Care: Quarterly Board meetings focus on uniform assessment, coordinated entry, Homeless Management Information System data collection and analysis, McKinney funded homelessness programming and planning. Collaborative applicant is shifting from Hilltown CDC to Community Action of Pioneer Valley this program year.

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission: Quarterly meetings of the Regional Housing Plan Implementation Committee. Networking venue for those involved in preserving and creating affordable housing in the 43 Cities and towns in the Valley. Also venue for Inclusive Communities Advisory Committee which focuses on fair housing.

Hampshire County Jail Diversion Program: Quarterly meetings with the Dept. of Mental Health, the Hampshire County House of Corrections and the Northampton Police Department to work on service referrals for people as opposed to incarceration.

Cot Management Program: Monthly meetings during the winter sheltering season with Friends of Hampshire County Homeless Board members and community volunteers in conjunction with ServiceNet, Inc. to oversee shelter operation.

Valley CDC / Wayfinders: Quarterly meetings with property managers and local service providers to insure stable housing for the residents of their affordable housing developments to prevent evictions.

Next Step Collaborative: Monthly meetings facilitated by the CDBG Director for housing and homeless service providers to monitor shelter capacity issues, numbers of unsheltered homeless, identification of resource gaps, general advocacy.

Northampton Housing Partnership: Monthly meetings of Mayoral appointed advisory board to articulate the housing needs of the community, following the implementation plan articulated in the 2011 Housing Needs Assessment and Strategic Housing Plan. Composed of a landlord, Community Legal Aid attorney, Housing Authority tenant, Smith College faculty, housing advocates, Planning Board chair, clergy and interested citizens.

REACH meetings: Regional Engagement and Assessment for Chronically Homeless sessions held weekly with relevant service providers coordinate case management and housing placements for those in need of housing and services, utilizing the by-name list and the coordinated entry system.

Mayor's Office: Monthly meetings with Mayor, Mayor's Chief of Staff, Economic Development Director, Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainability, the CDBG Director/Housing Planner, to insure a coordinated City community development program.

**Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(l))**

The Housing Partnership hosts the Valley Community Development Corporation, Friends of Hampshire County Homeless Individuals, The Community Builders, Habitat for Humanity, the Northampton Housing Authority, the Center for Human Development and others periodically to receive agency updates and identify ways the City and the Partnership can assist their efforts. These meetings identify what housing units are in the development pipeline and what resources might be needed to provide on site support services. A meeting was held this past year to identify how to create Housing First units in Northampton. Follow up work is occurring with the Department of Mental Health to pursue creating a Safe Havens program. Creating true Housing First, low threshold housing units is a prioritized need still being worked on.

The CDBG Director communicates regularly with the Senior Manager of Public Housing and Section 8 Programs and the Resident Services Coordinator at the Northampton Housing Authority to enhance collaborative efforts. City staff attend the Valley CDC provider meetings to identify how the City can be of service to their housing stabilization efforts. Those meetings are attended by mental health professionals and clinicians. the SRO Outreach Coordinator, the Veterans Agent, Veteran's Administration case workers, ServiceNet, Inc. Highland Valley Elder Services and others who all focus on tenancy preservation and housing stabilization for their clients. Way Finders have adopted this model of coordination of support services for the Live 155 development.

Next Step Collaborative monthly meetings include representation from Eliot Homeless Services, the mental health agency that has the Department of Mental Health vendor contract for homeless street outreach and clinical work, ServiceNet shelter providers, the Veterans Agent, Safe Passage (DV), A Positive Place ( HIV/AIDS), Cooley Dickinson Social Workers, Peer Mentors from the Recovery Center, formerly homeless, currently homeless, ServiceNet's Resource Center which includes Health Care for the Homeless nurses, The SRO Outreach Worker, the Community Housing Support Services Coordinator, and others. These meetings have been held monthly since 1994 and consistently provide a venue for enhanced coordination with homeless, housing and social service providers.

**Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.**

The Hilltown Community Development Corporation, which assumed the role of Collaborative Applicant for the Three County Rural Continuum of Care several years ago, announced their intention to relinquish that role earlier this year. Community Action of Pioneer Valley agreed to become the new lead agency. Under Hilltown's and the CoC board's leadership, strides were made in enhancing the HMIS data collection, analysis and dissemination, creation of the coordinated entry system and production and adoption of CoC policies and procedures. Successful McKinney applications were submitted and approved each year, providing 1.6 million dollars in resources annually. (The Executive Director of Community Action, Clare Higgins, was Mayor of Northampton during 12 of the 16 years that Northampton served as the lead agent for the Continuum, prior to relinquishing that role to Hilltown). Community Action is in the process of completing that transition with HUD, has hired a CoC coordinator and HMIS staff and will fully assume responsibility for the CoC in early summer. The Board membership will be reinvigorated and outreach to the three counties of Berkshire, Franklin and Hampshire will occur with renewed efforts. The CoC utilizes the committee structure of the Western Mass Network to End Homelessness to address the needs of the chronically homeless through the Individual Services Committee, the needs of families through the Family Services Committee, the needs of Veterans through the Veteran's Services Committee and the needs of youth through the Unaccompanied Youth Committee. The network also has a Domestic Violence Committee. All committees meet monthly and are organized and facilitated by the Network Coordinator, who will work closely with the new CoC Coordinator. The City CDBG Director participates on the Project Ranking Committee.

ServiceNet, Inc. has been the primary provider of permanent supported housing units through the Continuum for many years. ServiceNet opted out of that administration this past year. The Center for Human Development stepped forward to assume that responsibility. The McKinney award of roughly \$600,000 each year, provides subsidies for 60 units in the three counties. There was a gap in funding availability between the contracts, so people had to be relocated to other units before CHD could step in. This effort was time consuming and stressful for all involved. Locally, there were 8-10 clients affected. The City is grateful to CHD for coming forward to administer this resource and appreciates ServiceNet's efforts over the past decade to house and provide services to those exiting homelessness. ServiceNet



will continue to administer its sheltering programs in all three counties. The City looks forward to continuing its close collaboration with both agencies moving forward.

**Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS**

There are no municipalities in the Three County Continuum of Care that are ESG (Emergency Solutions Grants Program) entitlement communities. ESG funding for the CoC is allocated by the State's Department of Housing and Community Development through a competitive process. As part of the CoC governance structure, the CoC engages in an annual discussion about what the funding priorities should be and supports applications for funds from appropriate agencies for activities that address the identified priorities. Funds in the past few years have been allocated for prevention efforts.

The Collaborative Applicant for the Continuum of Care has had a data committee focused on the HMIS system and the AHAR submissions which have involved codifying the operation and administration of the HMIS System. Community Action is in the process of investigating how to make the current HMIS system more effective with the coordinated entry and by-name lists that HUD is requiring.

**2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities**

**Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	CASA LATINA, INC.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The agency conducted case management activities during the transition to a new umbrella organization. At the end of the current program year, Casa Latina will cease to exist. Community Action of Pioneer Valley will assume some of Casa's functions and has been allocated CDBG funding to accomplish that work. Additional bi-lingual staff are joining the existing Community Resources and Advocacy team at Community Action in order to better serve the Latino community. As additional funding sources are secured, outreach to the Latino community will be enhanced.

2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Center for Human Development
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy
3	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	CHD provides the administrative oversight for the Single Room Occupancy Outreach Program and the Community Housing Support Services Program in Northampton. The SRO Outreach Program was created in the late 1980's during the deinstitutionalization of the Northampton State Hospital. This is a small one person program that provides case management services to residents of the City's SRO's. This is an integral component in our local continuum of care. The program also operates a food pantry to address food insecurity. It is funded in part by CDBG. The Community Housing Support Services Project is funded by the City's Community Preservation Program and serves individuals and families facing eviction for non-payment of rent. CHD is now administering the 60 PSH units awarded McKinney Funding in the CoC application.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Center for New Americans
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	Annual Action Plan 2019	

	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Center for New Americans is a long time CDBG recipient that has been teaching English and offering support services to immigrants in Western MA for over 27 years. Classes, careers coaching, citizenship and immigration legal services provide stepping stones to new jobs, new businesses and new lives for immigrants in Western MA.
4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Office of Planning and Sustainability
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - Local Planning organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Housing Partnership works in partnership with the Office of Planning to further policies and zoning revisions that encourage the production and preservation of affordable housing. The Zoning Sub-Committee of the Housing Partnership meets periodically with the Permits Planner to strategize how to support potentially controversial zoning proposals. Partnership members provide testimony at public hearings, and the Chair of the Planning Board is also a Housing Partnership member which greatly facilitates communication and collaboration.
5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Northampton Department of Public Works
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Other government - Local

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Director of the Department of Public Works assisted with the development of an encampment protocol to identify and address the presence of unsheltered people living outside. The protocol sets out to identify land ownership and if the City is the landowner, an outreach team is sent to conduct engagement and assessment. Smith College has agreed to follow this protocol as well, and outreach team contact information is given to any private property owner wishing to address this situation as humanely as possible.
6	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Community Action of the Franklin, Hampshire and North Quabbin Regions, Inc.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Community Action of Pioneer Valley (new name) is the anti-poverty agency for the Hampshire, Franklin counties. In addition to being a CDBG funded recipient for the Community Resources and Youth Readiness Programs, Community Action has assumed the role of the Collaborative Applicant for the McKinney Continuum of Care for Berkshire, Franklin and Hampshire Counties. They have also taken over the mission and work of Casa Latina, which originated from Hampshire Community Action decades ago. The agency also operates the HeadStart Program on Vernon Street in Northampton and offers many programs to Northampton residents that empower residents to secure economic self-sufficiency.

7	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Legal Aid, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City funds CLA with CDBG funds for its homelessness prevention program. The program's staff attorneys interface with the Housing Authority and other affordable housing providers to facilitate housing stability for households facing eviction, particularly those already living in rent assisted subsidized units.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	PIONEER VALLEY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy

	<p><b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b></p>	<p>Habitat is the City's partner in the creation of affordable home ownership opportunities. With limited State funding for homeownership projects, Habitat is the sole organization addressing this prioritized need. Work on the remaining home in the Garfield/Verona neighborhood has been completed after many years. 6 homes are now built and occupied! Work also is progressing on the 4 new homes on Glendale Road. Both projects have received CDBG and CPC funding. Habitat can take on smaller scale projects that larger developers cannot, and they provide long term support to their families. The last house on Garfield Ave. embodies the "small house" energy efficient design competition results yielded from the "Just Big Enough" project which was initiated by the City's Office of Planning and Sustainability.</p>
9	<p><b>Agency/Group/Organization</b></p>	<p>Northampton Veterans Services</p>
	<p><b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b></p>	<p>Housing Services-homeless Services-Health Other government - Local</p>
	<p><b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b></p>	<p>Homelessness Needs - Veterans Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy</p>
	<p><b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b></p>	<p>Northampton's Veterans Agent is very engaged locally, regionally and at the State level advocating for resources for Veterans. He is a regular participant at the Next Step Collaborative, the Western Mass Network to End Homelessness Veterans Committee, and is Chair of the Statewide Veterans Coalition. He works closely with the Veterans Administration's Medical Campus and Soldier On to coordinate services, as well as the Northampton Housing Authority, who administers several hundred VASH vouchers for the region.</p>

10	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Massachusetts Fair Housing Center
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Analysis of Impediments
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City works with the Fair Housing Center to provide community outreach and education activities as well as to process complaints. The City and the MFHC participate in the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission's Regional Housing Plan Implementation Committee and the Inclusive Communities Advisory Group to facilitate mobility throughout the region. The Housing Center provided critical input into the 2019 Analysis of Impediments Update relative to the number and nature of complaints from Northampton.
11	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	HAP
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Now known as Way Finders, this organization completed the demolition and new construction of Live 155 on Pleasant Street, which is now a successfully operating mixed income mixed use property with 70 units. Way Finders will also manage the Valley CDC Lumber Yard Apartment project and the renovation/expansion of 82 Bridge Street SRO. The two organizations work closely together to accomplish affordable housing preservation and creation in Northampton.
12	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Northampton Housing Authority
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	PHA



	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	<b>Public Housing Needs</b>
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The NHA submitted an application to utilize CDBG funds in this new program year. The Program will assist with capital improvement/handicap accessibility projects at several developments. The City and the NHA are also partnering to submit an application to the Community Preservation Committee to purchase and install play equipment at the two family developments. The NHA stepped forward to accommodate relocation efforts for the 82 Bridge Street SRO as they did for the Northampton Lodging project, by admitting several tenants to NHA units during the construction period.
13	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Valley Community Development Corporation (CDC)
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Employment Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Valley CDC is a regional affordable housing developer. Services also include homeownership counseling, down payment assistance and small business technical assistance. The Lumber Yard Apartments development made great strides this past year and is scheduled for occupancy in June of 2019. The Sergeant House SRO Renovation/Expansion project will commence construction also in June of 2019. VCDC is also partnering with The Community Builders to create 65 additional affordable rental units at Village Hill, the former State Hospital property over the next several years, on two separate parcels.

14	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	SAFE PASSAGE
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Domestic Violence Services
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Safe Passage provides emergency shelter and support services to victims of domestic violence in Hampshire County. Administrative services have been consolidated in one building at a new location. Staff participate in the Western Mass Regional Network to End Homelessness through a newly created committee on Domestic Violence services as well as monthly Next Step meetings.
15	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	ServiceNet, Inc.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-homeless Services-Health Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	ServiceNet, Inc. is a large multi-faceted mental health agency. They are a CDBG funded public services grantee for the two emergency shelters for homeless individuals in Northampton. Their staff attend the Next Step Collaborative, REACH and the Individual Services Committee of the Regional Network to End Homelessness.
16	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Cooley Dickinson Hospital
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Health Health Agency Major Employer

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homelessness Strategy HOPWA Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Cooley Dickinson sponsors A Positive Place, a program that provides housing vouchers and support services to people living with HIV/Aids. Social workers from the Emergency Department attend Next Step Collaborative meetings in order to be up to date on current resources that can help avoid them discharging people into homelessness. Positive Place staff also attend Next Step meetings regularly. The program receives funding from a HOPWA grant administered by the City of Springfield.
17	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Friends of Hampshire County Homeless Individuals
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-homeless
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Friends of Hampshire County Homeless Individuals is a small non-profit operating out of Northampton. FOH has partnered with ServiceNet to create Yvonne's House, which houses 6 formerly chronically homeless individuals; with the Gandara Center to create Maple Ave, which houses 6 formerly homeless individuals committed to sober recovery and with Dial/Self to create 8 units for at risk unaccompanied homeless youth. The Chair of the Northampton Housing Partnership is on the Friends of the Homeless Board, and the President of the FOH Board attends the Next Step Collaborative meetings regularly.
18	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	MANNA SOUP KITCHEN, INC.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-homeless Soup Kitchen

	<p><b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b></p>	<p>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy</p>
	<p><b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b></p>	<p>The MANNA program is a CDBG funded public service. This program recently celebrated a 40 year anniversary and provides community meals 5 days a week. The program addresses food insecurity and promotes housing stability for those having to choose between paying housing costs and buying food.</p>
19	<p><b>Agency/Group/Organization</b></p>	<p>Highland Valley Elder Services</p>
	<p><b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b></p>	<p>Services-Elderly Persons Services-Health Regional organization</p>
	<p><b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b></p>	<p>Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy</p>
	<p><b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b></p>	<p>Highland Valley Elder Services provides case management and outreach to elders at-risk in the community. They work in conjunction with the SRO Outreach Program and affordable housing property managers to identify and serve elders in need of assistance. They also provide home delivered meals to allow elders to live independently.</p>

**Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting**

The additional outreach conducted this past year to update the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing helped immensely to not only formulate that report and create a work plan to implement the resultant recommendations, but also to inform this Annual Action Plan. Extensive outreach

was done via stakeholder sessions and focus groups. Multiple sessions with targeted subpopulations were conducted by Housing Partnership members, City staff and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission consultants. ( see list of participants in the Attachments).

#### Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Hilltown Community Development Corporation	Homelessness prevention, creation and sustainability of permanent supported housing units, promoting and funding housing stabilization support services, interface with addiction and mental health resources are overlapping goals. Both gather information and feedback from the committees that meet through the Western Mass Network to End Homelessness organizational structure.Regional goals are articulated in the annual McKinney application.Most recent submission was for 2019-2020.
Western Mass Opening Doors 2015	Western Mass Network to End Homelessness	Plan created in June 2015 offers a framework for implementation and accountability to make episodes of homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring by retooling the crisis response system to one of housing focused, data driven and outcome oriented. Municipal work is driven by the collective impact framework presented in the report.
Federal Opening Doors Plan 2010,2015	U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development	Western Mass aligned its regional work with goals outlined in the Federal Plan, to insure progress and accountability in one overall framework. The 10 objectives articulated in the Federal plan are pursued at the regional and local level.
Housing Needs Assessment/Strategic Plan 2011	Northampton Housing Partnership/Mayor's Office	Mayor's Office, CDBG Administrator/Housing Planner work through the Housing Partnership to implement goals and objectives identified in this comprehensive local plan. Updates on progress are regular agenda items at every monthly Partnership meeting.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
All Roads Lead Home 2008	Three County CoC 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness	Written by Housing Directors in Northampton and Springfield to build community support and set goals. Coordination and funding for prevention, rapid rehousing, creation of permanent supportive housing units outside of Holyoke and Springfield, enhancing employment opportunities and life skills were all goals that guided the work over the last decade.
Report on Unaccompanied Homeless Youth 2015	Executive Office of the Governor	Special Commission on Unaccompanied Homeless Youth was formed in 2015. State resources for housing and support services have been allocated at the State level since. Usually two million dollars annually support the work to implement the recommendations in the report. This years budget request, still pending, is to increase that amount to 5 million dollars.
Unlocking Opportunity: An Assessment of Barriers	Northampton Housing Partnership	This report will be finalized after a public review session to be held May 22nd, 2019. Pioneer Valley Planning Commission in conjunction with the Mayor's Office and Northampton Housing Partnership have overseen the effort to update the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing. Up-to-date census data will provide a relevant context to the City and regional demographics and input from an extensive community engagement process will inform the work of City departments for several years.

**Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Narrative (optional)**

## **AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)**

### **1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting**

The goals and objectives identified in the Action Plan were formulated by input gathered at the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness Steering Committee and sub-population committee meetings, the CDBG Public Services Review Committee interviews, monthly Housing Partnership/Fair Housing Committee meetings, monthly Next Step Collaborative meetings of housing and homeless service providers, quarterly housing provider meetings and two public hearings advertised through legal ads in the newspaper, postings on the City's website and direct outreach to impacted populations.

More extensive targeted outreach occurred this year as the City updated its Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing. The effort, entitled Unlocking Opportunity: An Assessment of Barriers to Housing Choice in Northampton was undertaken in conjunction with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. Funded through a general fund appropriation at the direction of the Mayor, PVPC was selected by the Northampton Housing Partnership after a solicitation process that yielded 3 responses. Two days of stakeholder sessions were held in January of 2019. On January 23rd, one hour sessions began at 9 a.m. and ended at 5 p.m. and PVPC, City staff and Housing Partnership members heard from social service providers, housing search workers, property managers, local and area housing authorities, and disability community advocates. On January 30th, we heard from local government officials from other Pioneer Valley communities, affordable housing developers, realtors and local government officials from Northampton which included the Mayor, the Planning Director, the Senior Center Director, the Social Worker for the public schools and the Human Rights Commission. Each session was attended by 4-8 participants. Additionally, focus groups were held with participants from the Northampton Recovery Center, inmates from the Hampshire House of Corrections pre-release program, staff at Safe Passage's Emergency Shelter for people experiencing domestic violence and currently homeless guests at the Hampshire County Resource Center. A survey was created and disseminated throughout the region to gather information about people's experiences with housing discrimination. Paper copies were made available at a variety of social service agencies such as the Center for New Americans and the Pioneer Valley Workers Center and public locations such as Forbes Library. 200 surveys were returned. A public session on the AI was held May 22, 2019 to solicit feedback on draft findings and gather additional comments. 65 people attended this event, which provided food, child care and reimbursement for public transportation costs. This report will inform the work of the Mayor's Office, the Office Planning and Sustainability, the CDBG Office, the Housing Partnership/Fair Housing Committee and the Human Rights Commission for years to come.

### Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
1	Public Hearing	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>Staff of the agencies tend to come more than actual clients.</p> <p>The public hearings were held February 13th and March 27th. 16 participants attended.</p>	See minutes attached.	All comments were accepted.	



Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
2	Survey Monkey	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>The Analysis of Impediments survey instrument was distributed through a Pioneer Valley Planning Commission social media campaign and disseminated on the Mayor's Facebook Page. It was publicized in the newspaper and thru other listservs such as Yes In My Back Yard Pioneer Valley. 200+ surveys were received thru Survey Monkey and 30 paper surveys were submitted.</p>	<p>All Survey responses and open ended question responses were included in the analysis.</p>	<p>All comments were accepted.</p>	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
3	Public Meeting	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>The Northampton Housing Partnership met monthly and created a New Member Guide with a glossary of affordable housing terms, this past year. The guide will help new members better understand their role. Membership recruitment was identified as a goal this year in order to diversify the Partnership composition. There are currently 13 members out of a possible 15.</p>	<p>Monthly minutes are taken and posted on the City's website.</p>	<p>All comments are accepted.</p>	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
4	Invited Participants	Housing and Homeless Service Providers	The Next Step Collaborative meets monthly, and has since 1994 on the second Thursday of every month. All local housing and homeless service providers and consumers are welcome. Typical attendance is 8-15.	Discussions focus on identifying new resources, gaps in resources, assessing shelter capacity and issues, monitoring and conducting outreach to unsheltered living outside in encampments, and assessing resident needs living in the City's affordable housing and Single Room Occupancy units.	All comments are accepted.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
5	AI stakeholder and focus group sessions	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>Sessions were attended by the Department of Mental Health, the Center for New Americans, Catholic Charities, Community Legal Aid, Housing Authorities, disabled citizens, Pioneer Valley Workers Center to learn about the needs of minorities, non-English speakers, persons with mental and physical disabilities, public housing residents and people living with HIV/AIDS. 27 people participated in those targeted sessions.</p>	<p>All comments incorporated into the report. Pages and pages of newsprint were generated from all the sessions.</p> <p>Discussions were lively, full and informative. The public input received informed the Annual Action Plan as well as the Analysis of Impediments Update.</p>	All comments were accepted.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

## Expected Resources

### AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

#### Introduction

The City of Northampton will use new program year funds in conjunction with carry over funds to implement projects as prioritized in the 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan.

#### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1			Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	670,267	10,000	461,583	1,141,850	Funds will be used for housing programs/projects; public facilities and access; public services; and the administration of the grant. Expected amount based the award, estimated program income and carryover
						670,267	

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
Continuum of Care	public - federal	Housing						This is a pro-rated amount of the total amount awarded to the Three County Rural Continuum of Care, as an estimate of the impact on Northampton programming. Overall award for Berkshire, Franklin and Hampshire Counties is \$1,602,351
Other	public - federal	Acquisition Housing Public Improvements	334,210	0	0	334,210	334,210	
Other	public - federal	Housing					0	This resource reflects the award to A Positive Place, for housing support subsidies and case management. HOPWA grant is administered by the City of Springfield for the region.
			1,046,994	0	0	1,046,994	1,046,994	

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

**Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied**

All CDBG funded activities and projects require other funding sources to achieve full implementation. Public facilities projects often utilize City Capital Improvement Program funds and privately fundraised dollars. Public infrastructure projects typically utilize State Chapter 90 funding and other State grant sources, such as the MAssWorks Program. Public Service grants use a variety of other funding sources such as United Way and private fundraising from foundations and individuals. CDBG funds are used for affordable housing applications to State and Federal funding

sources that require evidence of a local cash match, although there is not an actual dollar amount required. The affordable housing projects at Village Hill will have several additional funding sources, as the CDBG allotment addresses only a very small percentage of the overall project cost. Local affordable housing projects also apply to the Community Preservation Committee for CPA funding (local home rule approval to tax with a State match). Smith College also created an Affordable Housing Fund to assist with the development of new affordable units to compensate for units they remove from the inventory when they expand their campus.

The Commonwealth's Department of Housing and Community Development is the primary funding source for affordable housing development through the One-Stop Application process. An indication of the leveraging scale is exhibited by the \$150-200,000 of CDBG funds allocated to the Lumber Yard Apartment development and the Live 155 project which were both 20 million dollar projects.

The Public Service grant allocations from the City's CDBG program are so small that grantees report that their (the CDBG awards) greatest value is to show City support when they apply to other funding sources for the larger sums.

With regard to the McKinney Homeless Assistance Program funds that are channeled through the Continuum of Care, ServiceNet withdrew from the administration of 45 units of permanent supported housing due in part to the stringent cash match requirements mandated by HUD. The agency could not operate the program without running a deficit, so \$600,000 was reallocated in this years application. The Center for Human Development stepped forward with the hopes that as a larger more diverse agency, they could more easily accommodate HUD's match requirements. The preference from the local level would be that the Federal government simply provide enough funding to adequately administer the programs, without all the added work required to identify, track and monitor cash and in-kind matches.

**If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan**

The City's Office of Planning and Sustainability is ever vigilant in the pursuit of land acquisition for open space acquisition and limited development projects. This past year, the Planning Director sponsored another design competition for small lot development in conjunction with natural resource conservation, asking respondents to design small energy efficiency homes. A parcel on Burts Pit Road has been purchased by the City, and the design competition was specific to that parcel.

\$135,000 of CDBG funding in this year's Action Plan will finance soft costs and infrastructure work on a defunct sub-division that the City purchased last year. The Glendale Road parcel will now be preserved as open space with a wildlife corridor but the Director also carved off 4 home sites, which were deeded to Habitat for Humanity through an RFP process.

The City is still pursuing ownership of two lots deeded to the Housing Authority through the disposition of the former State hospital property. It has now been 2 years that the State has taken to address the revised legislation giving ownership to the City, getting the parcels appraised and transferring the deeds. When the City does finally become the owner, an RFP will be issued for development of affordable housing.

The City regularly reviews tax title takings and foreclosures, which are rare, for possible development opportunities.

**Discussion**

Because the State is not funding affordable homeownership development, we are grateful to have Habitat for Humanity creating units in Northampton. The City and its affordable housing development partners all continue to think creatively about how to produce attractive, energy efficient new units, despite the lack of available land and high development costs. The Northampton housing market continues to be strong, with very little inventory available at the less expensive end. The City continues to examine tax abatement programs for developers, and possible zoning revisions to increase opportunities for people to live more affordably.



## Annual Goals and Objectives

### AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

#### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Homelessness Prevention	2015	2019	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs		Homelessness Prevention	CDBG: \$19,000 Continuum of Care: \$423,076 CPA: \$80,465 ESG: \$915,659 HOPWA: \$131,335	Homelessness Prevention: 390 Persons Assisted
2	Support for Emergency Shelter System	2015	2019	Homeless		Support for Emergency Shelter	CDBG: \$23,715 Continuum of Care: \$0 CPA: \$0 ESG: \$62,100 HOPWA: \$0	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 300 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Rental Housing for Families	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Rental Housing for Families	CDBG: \$150,000 Continuum of Care: \$155,133 CPA: \$0 ESG: \$0 HOPWA: \$0	Rental units constructed: 0 Household Housing Unit
4	Rental Housing for Individuals	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Rental Housing for Individuals	CDBG: \$0 Continuum of Care: \$0 CPA: \$0 ESG: \$0 HOPWA: \$0	Rental units constructed: 20 Household Housing Unit Rental units rehabilitated: 15 Household Housing Unit
5	Preservation of Existing Affordable Rental Stock	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Preservation of Existing Affordable Rental Stock	CDBG: \$0 Continuum of Care: \$0 CPA: \$0 ESG: \$0 HOPWA: \$0	Rental units constructed: 0 Household Housing Unit Rental units rehabilitated: 0 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Housing Rehabilitation	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Housing Rehabilitation Resources	CDBG: \$177,674 Continuum of Care: \$0 CPA: \$0 ESG: \$0 HOPWA: \$0	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit
7	Affordable Homeownership for Families	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Affordable Homeownership for Families	CDBG: \$33,000 Continuum of Care: \$0 CPA: \$0 ESG: \$0 HOPWA: \$0	Homeowner Housing Added: 5 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 3 Households Assisted
8	Housing for At-Risk and Special Needs Populations	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Housing for At - Risk & Special Needs Populations	CDBG: \$150,000 Continuum of Care: \$1,309,510 CPA: \$0 ESG: \$0 HOPWA: \$131,335	HIV/AIDS Housing Operations: 27 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	Economic Development/Income Maximization	2015	2019	Economic Development/Income Maximization		Economic Development	CDBG: \$39,000 Continuum of Care: \$0 CPA: \$0 ESG: \$0 HOPWA: \$0	Jobs created/retained: 5 Jobs Businesses assisted: 25 Businesses Assisted
10	Housing Support Services	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Housing Support Services	CDBG: \$10,000 CPA: \$80,465	Homelessness Prevention: 225 Persons Assisted
11	Addressing Basic Needs	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development		Addressing Basic Needs	CDBG: \$21,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2500 Persons Assisted
12	Elimination of Slums and Blight	2015	2016	Elimination of Slums and Blight	No geographic Priorities Designated	Elimination of Slums and Blight	CDBG: \$0 Continuum of Care: \$0 CPA: \$0 ESG: \$0 HOPWA: \$0	Buildings Demolished: 0 Buildings

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
13	Improvement of Public Facilities	2015	2016	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Facilities	CDBG: \$95,000 Continuum of Care: \$0 CPA: \$0 ESG: \$0 HOPWA: \$0	

Table 6 – Goals Summary

## Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Homelessness Prevention
	Goal Description	
2	Goal Name	Support for Emergency Shelter System
	Goal Description	
3	Goal Name	Rental Housing for Families
	Goal Description	CDBG funds in the amount of \$150,000 will be expended during this program year for The Community Builders to use towards the acquisition of two parcels at Village Hill. The parcels are being purchased from MassDevelopment for use as affordable housing. 65 new rental units for families and individuals will be created for a range of incomes (12 in one mixed use building on one parcel and 53 in a residential building on a different parcel), from 30% of area median income up to 120% of area median income, but construction will not be completed during this program year.

4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Rental Housing for Individuals
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>In the prior program year, Friends of Hampshire County Homeless Individuals and their partner organization Dial/Self received \$75,000 in CPA funds and \$65,000 of CDBG funds to produce 8 units of housing for unaccompanied homeless youth. 4 units in a rehabilitated existing building came on line this past fall and work on 4 additional units in a newly constructed building will come on line this program year to complete the project.</p> <p>Last year's CDBG allocation of \$150,000 for the Sergeant House, at 82 Bridge Street that involved the renovation and expansion of an existing 15 unit SRO building into 31 units (16 new) of enhanced SRO housing, will see completion this program year. So although the CDBG funds have been drawn in the prior program year, the 31 units are now being reported. The project received \$350,000 of CPA funding in two rounds.</p>
5	<b>Goal Name</b>	Preservation of Existing Affordable Rental Stock
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>As reflected in the prior goal statement, 15 units of affordable rental housing will be created this program year at the Sergeant House located at 82 Bridge Street. Because HUD requires plan components to be reported in only one category, the data is not reflected in this section, although the project does achieve the goal of preservation of existing affordable rental stock. It also could have been counted in the goal addressing Housing for At-Risk and Special Needs Populations, but the 15 new units was included in Goal #4, Rental Housing for Individuals.</p>
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	Housing Rehabilitation
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission will continue to administer the City's Housing Rehabilitation Program this year, with the goal to qualify and complete 5 single family homes in need of renovation.
7	<b>Goal Name</b>	Affordable Homeownership for Families
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>In the prior program year, \$135,000 in CDBG funds were allocated to Habitat for Humanity to construct 4 homes on Glendale Road. Those homes will be completed and occupied in this program years, although funds will have been drawn. The final home at the Garfield/Verona Habitat development will also be completed and occupied this year.</p> <p>Valley CDC will administer 3 downpayment/closing costs grants as direct financial assistance to facilitate people being able to purchase homes in Northampton.</p>

8	<b>Goal Name</b>	Housing for At-Risk and Special Needs Populations
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>The Continuum of Care McKinney amount reflects awards made to agencies that administer housing subsidies and support services in multiple communities. It is difficult to assign a dollar amount to resources Northampton receives, as subsidies are utilized in apartments that can shift from county and community, depending on availability at any given time.</p> <p>Dial/Self will administer a combined Transitional/Permanent/Rapid Re-housing Program model for at risk youth this year with \$98,256 of McKinney funds; ServiceNet will continue to administer the Shelter Plus Care Program in Franklin and Hampshire counties in conjunction with the Department of Mental Health for \$211,239 (21 units) and the Center for Human Development will utilize an award of \$690,520 for a permanent supported housing program for chronically homeless in Berkshire, Franklin and Hampshire counties (45 units).</p> <p>A Positive Place will administer 27 subsidies to families experiencing HIV/Aids, with a McKinney award of \$127,886, HOPWA and Ryan White funds. The 8 units Dial/Self will administer at the Northampton TeenHousing site will serve unaccompanied homeless youth and the Sergeant House will have units set aside for homeless individuals (as reflected in the Rental Housing for Individuals section).</p> <p>The Village Hill developments that will create 65 new units will include handicap accessible units, as well as units to accommodate the visually and hearing impaired. They will be reported on when those units are on line, even though \$150,000 of CDBG funds will be utilized this program year for acquisition costs.</p>
9	<b>Goal Name</b>	Economic Development/Income Maximization
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>Economic empowerment goals are furthered by Community Action's Youth Employment Readiness Initiative (\$8,000) , the Center for New American's Facilitating Immigrant Economic Independence Program (\$11,000) and Valley Community Development's Small Business Assistance Program (\$20,000).</p>

10	<b>Goal Name</b>	Housing Support Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>The Center for Human Development (CHD) administers two housing support programs in Northampton. The Single Room Occupancy Outreach Program addresses the needs of residents of SRO housing by providing outreach, case management and basic needs services for the City's most vulnerable housed residents. For over 20 years this program has prevented homelessness through housing stabilization, food security, improved health and linkages to vital services. The numbers served are high due to those accessing the food pantry.</p> <p>CHD also administers the Community Housing Support Services Program. This initiative, created by the Northampton Housing Partnership is in its fourth year of operation. Funded by the Community Preservation Act local funding, this program provides case management services to individuals and families at risk of eviction due to non-payment issues. Numbers served to be 25.</p> <p>There are other housing programs that include case management services to support housing stabilization that have been reported in other goal categories, such as the McKinney Shelter Plus Care Program.</p>
11	<b>Goal Name</b>	Addressing Basic Needs
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>Public social services that address basic needs include the MANNA Soup Kitchen (\$4,000); the Northampton Survival Center (\$12,000) and Community Action's Community Resource Advocacy Network (\$5,000).</p> <p>The CDBG support for the Hampshire County Inter-faith Shelter and the Grove Street Inn Homeless Shelter for Individuals is reflected in Goal #2, Support for the Emergency Shelter System.</p>
12	<b>Goal Name</b>	Elimination of Slums and Blight
	<b>Goal Description</b>	No activity is planned this year for this category.
13	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improvement of Public Facilities
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The Northampton Housing Authority will be utilizing \$95,000 in CDBG funding to accomplish handicap accessibility work at 4 of their public housing sites.



## Projects

### AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

#### Introduction

For the program year July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020, the City of Northampton will receive \$670,267 in Community Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Unexpended funds from prior program years will be reallocated and applied to projects moving forward.

This Action Plan details how CDBG funds will be spent on new projects to address priorities identified in the City's five-year Consolidated Plan as reviewed and updated.

#### Projects

#	Project Name
1	Homeowner Down Payment Assistance
2	Housing Rehabilitation Program
3	Northampton Housing Authority
4	Public Infrastructure - Sidewalk Wheelchair Ramps
5	Micro-Business Assistance Program
6	Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring Program
7	SRO Outreach
8	Employment Youth Readiness Initiative
9	Facilitating Immigrant Economic Independence
10	Community Resources & Advocacy
11	CLA Tenancy Preservation
12	Passport to Success
13	MANNA Soup Kitchen
14	Grove Street Inn
15	Interfaith Winter Shelter
16	Emergency Food Pantry
17	Administration and Planning

Table 7 - Project Information

#### Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

Northampton has a need for more deeply subsidized permanent supported housing units, particularly of the Safe Havens, Housing First models. With such a lack of those unit types, efforts geared towards housing stabilization of residents in their existing units is critical. Supporting the emergency shelter

system and homelessness prevention programs is therefore a high priority.

Creating Housing First units is very complicated. The traditional affordable housing developers choose not to access McKinney funding, as the Federal funding cycles are difficult to coordinate with State cycles, and all levels of funding are required to implement successful projects. If State sources can be used for the actual development costs, and McKinney funding can assist with providing subsidies for the units, that works best, but the efforts required to coordinate both is a huge obstacle. Site acquisition and control is next to impossible to obtain when funding applications are needed to purchase parcels. The timing simply does not work, unless you have a seller willing to wait several years.

Northampton has seen over 125 units of affordable housing created in the last 3 years, with more in the pipeline, but the demand far exceeds the supply. Over 450 households applied for the 55 units coming on line at the Lumber Yard apartments. These units, although sorely needed, are not true Housing First units that people challenged by poor rental histories, CORI records or other issues can access. The CDBG Director held a large meeting to brainstorm how to create these units in Northampton and now a bi-monthly meeting is occurring with the Department of Mental Health to see if progress can be made in the coming year.

This year's CDBG program, however, addresses a variety of community development components that will cumulatively have a positive impact on the quality of life for many City residents with special needs, disabilities and limited incomes.

**AP-38 Project Summary**  
**Project Summary Information**

1	<b>Project Name</b>	Homeowner Down Payment Assistance
	<b>Target Area</b>	No geographic Priorities Designated
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Homeownership for Families
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$33,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Valley CDC will assist income eligible households looking to purchase their first home in Northampton and provide referrals to HOME funded opportunities and State subsidized mortgage products. CDBG funds will be use to provide \$4,000 down payment assistance grants to three first time home buyers.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	3 down payment / closing cost assistance grants for three income eligible households.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Valley CDC, 30 Market Street, Northampton
2	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Three first time home buyer grants in the amount of \$4,000 each to income eligible households and referrals to HOME funded homeownership assistance, including new or re-sale HOME funded opportunities. The program will address the increasing challenges that many households with limited incomes face including student loan debt and high rental costs and the strong local housing market that negatively affect their ability to obtain homeownership.
	<b>Project Name</b>	Housing Rehabilitation Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	No geographic Priorities Designated
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Housing Rehabilitation
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing Rehabilitation Resources
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$177,674
	<b>Description</b>	The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) will continue to administer this program and provide assistance for income eligible owner-occupied single family home owners and focus on remediation of code violations and lead paint abatement. Prior year funds will be used along with new year funding. 5 units are proposed for completion.

	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	5 single family homeowners with low incomes.
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-wide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Repairs to heating, plumbing, electrical, roof and structural systems to remediate code violations. Lead paint abatement will be given high priority if funds allow. Up to \$45,000 will be available per unit in the form of 15-year deferred payment loans.
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Northampton Housing Authority
	<b>Target Area</b>	No geographic Priorities Designated
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Housing for At-Risk and Special Needs Populations
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing for At - Risk & Special Needs Populations
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$95,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Northampton Housing Authority will install handicap accessible ramps at three buildings located at the Cahill Apartments on Fruit Street, install security cameras at the Salvo Apartments and a roll in shower in an additional unit.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	24 Elderly/disabled households will benefit from handicap ramp installation at 3 buildings located at the Cahill Apartments.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Cahill Apartments, 35 Fruit Street, Northampton
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Installation of ADA compliant handicap ramps at the entrances of the 3 buildings and automatic door openers.
<b>4</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Infrastructure - Sidewalk Wheelchair Ramps
	<b>Target Area</b>	No geographic Priorities Designated
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improvement of Public Facilities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Infrastructure
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$110,000

	<b>Description</b>	Design and installation of sidewalk and wheelchair ramps to bring them into conformance with current Americans with Disabilities (ADA) and American Access Board (AAB) standards.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	1,999 individuals with vision and ambulatory difficulty
	<b>Location Description</b>	All sites will be within 0.6 miles of commercial areas (downtown, King Street, Florence, Pleasant Street) and 1.0 mile of K-12 schools, based on the distance that pedestrians and those in wheelchairs are most likely to travel.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Replace substandard sidewalk/ road intersections with wheelchair ramps that comply with current ADA standards (concrete ramps with appropriate slopes, cross slopes, tactile warning strips and warning pavement markings).
5	<b>Project Name</b>	Micro-Business Assistance Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Economic Development/Income Maximization
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$20,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Valley CDC will provide technical assistance to income eligible residents interested in starting a new business or existing micro-business owners that want to improve revenue profitability.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	40 individuals / businesses will benefit from this program
	<b>Location Description</b>	Technical assistance is provided at Valley CDC, 30 Market Street, Northampton. Workshops are held at various locations throughout the City.

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Technical assistance includes: help in preparation of business plans and financial projections; marketing; and access to financing through micro-loan programs and/or conventional financing. Workshops to build technical skills are also provided.
<b>6</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Addressing Basic Needs
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Addressing Basic Needs
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$8,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Center for Human Development (CHD) Big Brothers Big Sisters Program will create and support mentoring relationships for children with multiple risk factors in families with low and moderate incomes in Northampton. Children are referred by school personnel and other agencies.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	30 at risk Northampton Youth
	<b>Location Description</b>	City wide with the major focus being on children who reside at Florence Heights and Hampshire Heights (both Housing Authority properties) and Meadowbrook Apartments in Florence. Referrals will be from local public and social service agencies with the focus being on children residing in low and moderate income housing areas.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Mentoring relationships using a community or site-based model. Volunteer mentors and mentees meet for at least one year getting together for 3-5 hours weekly.  The site-based model is <i>Kids to Campus</i> where mentees are matched with Smith College students. The program provides transportation for youth to weekly get togethers on the Smith College Campus.
<b>7</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	SRO Outreach
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Homelessness Prevention
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homelessness Prevention

	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$10,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Center for Human Development (CHD) will provide outreach, case management and support for residents living in single occupancy units in order to achieve housing stabilization, food security, and linkages to community services.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	150 Northampton SRO tenants will be served with case management assistance and food pantry access.
	<b>Location Description</b>	<p>The program office and food pantry is located at 129 Main Street, Northampton in the First Churches. SRO locations served are:</p> <p>Go West, 1-3 North Main Street, Florence</p> <p>The Maples, 16 North Maple Street, Florence</p> <p>Earle Street Apartments, 180-182 Earle Street, Northampton</p> <p>King Street SRO, 96-98 King Street, Northampton</p> <p>The Lorraine, 96 Pleasant Street, Northampton</p> <p>Bridge Street SRO, 82 Bridge Street, Northampton</p> <p>Live 155, 155 Pleasant Street, Northampton</p>
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The Outreach Coordinator will provide comprehensive outreach and services to address housing stabilization; including crisis intervention, access to medical and mental health care, transportation to and from appointments, assistance establishing community linkages to other resources and will support the tenants being relocated from the 82 Bridge St. SRO during the renovation project. A food pantry will be open three days per week: Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
8	<b>Project Name</b>	Employment Youth Readiness Initiative
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Economic Development/Income Maximization
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$8,000



	<b>Description</b>	Community Action will provide individual career development assistance, employment readiness training and educational workshops focused on employment in high-growth sectors for at-risk Northampton youth ages 12-24. The program will assist them to make the transition to adulthood and allow them to be financially self reliant, stay in school and/or continue to higher education.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	60 low and moderate income at-risk Northampton youth.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The program is located at 17 New South Street.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Individual assessments for youth to set and achieve their training and employment goals; a 15-20 hour job readiness training to gain important skills for getting jobs and being successful in the workplace; career pathways education with exploration events focusing on local high-growth employment sectors. Trainings in Green Jobs & Construction, Allied Health, Information Technology, Education and Human Services; Topical Workforce Development trainings in the workplace such as conflict resolution, worker's rights, discrimination and harrassment; paid internships in their field of interest; and intra-program collaboration that offers referrals and support.
9	<b>Project Name</b>	Facilitating Immigrant Economic Independence
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Economic Development/Income Maximization
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$11,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Center for New Americans will offer free classes in English for speakers of other languages. Advisers will meet with students to draft an education/career plan, provide career coaching and employment search assistance. The job training leads to students and alumni filling positions in health care, hospitality and manufacturing fields for which local employers recruit them consistently. Citizenship assistance and immigration legal services are also provided.

	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	55 immigrants with low and moderate incomes in Northampton.
	<b>Location Description</b>	James House Community Learning Center, 42 Gothic Street, Northampton
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	ESOL classes, computer instruction, career pathways classes, career advising, legal services and referrals to area support services.
<b>10</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Community Resources & Advocacy
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Addressing Basic Needs
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Addressing Basic Needs
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$5,000
	<b>Description</b>	Community Action will provide information and referral; access to income support, including direct help with SNAP and health insurance benefits and re-determinations; payment of past due bills or moving costs to prevent homelessness; and advocacy with other public benefit systems.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	140 Northampton individuals with low and moderate incomes
	<b>Location Description</b>	17 New South Street, Northampton
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Information and referrals; assistance/advocacy accessing public benefits; support with identifying the households best strategies for building economic security. Program is accessible by phone Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm; appointments with staff are available in the office 3 days a week.
<b>11</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	CLA Tenancy Preservation
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Homelessness Prevention

	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homelessness Prevention
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$9,000
	<b>Description</b>	Community Legal Aid (CLA) will provide free legal services to Northampton tenants with low and moderate incomes at risk of eviction and participants in rental assistance programs, such as Section 8, who are at risk of being terminated from the subsidy program.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	20 Northampton households at risk of eviction
	<b>Location Description</b>	20 Hampton Avenue, Northampton
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Free legal advocacy for preventing eviction and homelessness and securing or maintaining eligibility for subsidized housing.
12	<b>Project Name</b>	Passport to Success
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Economic Development/Income Maximization
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$10,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Literacy Project, Inc will provide adult basic education (ABE) services to adults and out of school youth ages 16 and over to develop college and career readiness as pathways to economic opportunity and security.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	30 Northampton individuals with low and moderate incomes.
	<b>Location Description</b>	James House Community Learning Center, 42 Gothic Street, Northampton.

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Services will include four levels of ABE classes; individualized education and career advising geared towards meeting students specific challenges; and activities to increase student readiness for employment and post secondary education. Funds will support education and career advising 4 hours per week for 39 weeks.
<b>13</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	MANNA Soup Kitchen
	<b>Target Area</b>	No geographic Priorities Designated
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Addressing Basic Needs
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Addressing Basic Needs
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$4,000
	<b>Description</b>	The MANNA Soup Kitchen, Inc will provide five free meals a week (Monday-Thursday and Saturdays) with a special meal on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	550 Northampton individuals with low and moderate incomes.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Meals provided at: St John's Episcopal Church, 48 Elm Street, Northampton Edwards Church, 297 Main Street, Northampton
<b>14</b>	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Free meals every Monday-Thursday and Saturdays plus a special meal on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.
	<b>Project Name</b>	Grove Street Inn
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Support for Emergency Shelter System
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Support for Emergency Shelter
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$11,715
	<b>Description</b>	ServiceNet, Inc owns and operates a 21-bed emergency shelter serving homeless individuals. Participants may stay up to 90 days and staff provide on site services supporting residents efforts to rebuild their lives.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	90 homeless individuals will be provided shelter and meals.
	<b>Location Description</b>	91 Grove Street, Northampton with case management provided at the Resource Center, 43 Center Street, Northampton.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Overnight shelter and case management for up to 90 days.
15	<b>Project Name</b>	Interfaith Winter Shelter
	<b>Target Area</b>	No geographic Priorities Designated
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Support for Emergency Shelter System
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Support for Emergency Shelter
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$12,000
	<b>Description</b>	ServiceNet, Inc in collaboration with the Friends of Hampshire County Homeless Individuals and the City of Northampton will provide a 20 bed overnight winter emergency shelter for homeless individuals from November 1-April 30 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 am.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	200 homeless individuals will be provided an evening meal, overnight shelter and breakfast, during the program year.
	<b>Location Description</b>	43 Center Street, Northampton
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The Interfaith Winter Shelter is open from November 1st- April 30th, 6:00pm-7:00 am. IFS has showers, laundry, clothing and two meals. A nurse practitioner and social worker visit weekly and a physician monthly. Case managers support searches for housing. Day activities are provided by the Resource Center, funded separately.
16	<b>Project Name</b>	Emergency Food Pantry
	<b>Target Area</b>	No geographic Priorities Designated
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Addressing Basic Needs
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Addressing Basic Needs
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$12,000

	<b>Description</b>	The Northampton Survival Center will provide nutritionally balanced food packages monthly that are customized to individual's dietary needs. Clients also have weekly access to fresh bread and produce.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	1,800 residents of Northampton with low and moderate incomes.
	<b>Location Description</b>	265 Prospect Street, Northampton
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	<p>Access to emergency food pantry, once per month for 7 day supply of food for each member of a household. Clients may return on a weekly basis for fresh produce and bread and bakery items.</p> <p>A new waiting area allows for more client seating and includes a flat screen television with rotating slides on cooking videos, information about other social services in the city, and general information about wellness, nutrition, exercise and disease prevention management. A safety net fund allows extra visits within the month for those in extreme need, usually related to medical concerns.</p> <p>A Kids' Summer Food Program provides extra groceries for youth who rely on the schools free and reduced meal programs.</p>
<b>17</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Administration and Planning
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	

<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homelessness Prevention Support for Emergency Shelter Rental Housing for Individuals Rental Housing for Families Preservation of Existing Affordable Rental Stock Housing Rehabilitation Resources Affordable Homeownership for Families Housing for At - Risk & Special Needs Populations Economic Development Housing Support Services Addressing Basic Needs Elimination of Slums and Blight Public Facilities Public Infrastructure
<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$134,053
<b>Description</b>	Administration of the CDBG grant program, including housing community and economic development activities.
<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2020
<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Residents of Northampton with low and moderate incomes
<b>Location Description</b>	City wide
<b>Planned Activities</b>	Administration of the CDBG Program, community and economic development planning activities. Of the total City population of 28,726. 15% are residents whose incomes are below the poverty level. This translates to 4,309 who are potentially eligible beneficiaries of CDBG activities and programming.

## AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

### Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

Funds were allocated to needs that were identified from citizen participation and data analysis during the Consolidated Plan preparation and each year for the Annual Action Plans. A new ConPlan will be prepared in 2020 and the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing will be completed in June of 2019. Both those planning efforts will yield new areas of need where funding should be directed.

Census tracts of more than 20% minority population are defined as areas of minority concentration. Using One CPD and drafts of the AI, no such tracts have been identified in Northampton. There are areas of concentration of minority populations in tracts where the Housing Authority properties are located, such as Hampshire Heights (79 units) and Florence Heights (49). Meadowbrook Apartments (252) and Hathaway Farms (207) also contain racially and ethnically diverse resident populations. The CDBG Director worked closely with the Housing Authority to encourage their participation in the CDBG Program. This collaboration resulted in a \$95,000 CDBG award. Members of the Housing Partnership are also working with the NHA staff and residents of Hampshire Heights to prepare a Community Preservation Act application for play equipment at the development.

Casa Latina ceased to operate during the current program year, and the core services of advocating for the Latino residents in Hampshire County has transferred to Community Action. As that role shift solidifies, the City will advocate for additional funding to insure that outreach continues to occur to serve the Hispanic community in Northampton and beyond.

### Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
No geographic Priorities Designated	100

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

### Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The Public Service programs that are funded by CDBG all deliver their services city-wide. Northampton is a small city, so, there are no clearly defined larger geographic areas with high need. Sub-recipients do employ targeted outreach strategies to particular areas, to reach populations that face more challenges than the community at large, however.

Properties participating in the Housing Rehab Program have been served on a first come first served basis. Their locations have been widely dispersed across the City. If funding allows the rehab program to continue, there may be neighborhoods defined in the future as places to concentrate rehab efforts, for a



more comprehensive revitalization strategy.

## **Discussion**

The City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, currently being updated by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, could potentially identify areas within the City where resources need to be directed. PVPC has an in-house data center, so the Census data, American Community Survey data and other relevant data sources that exist, will be examined extensively. The timing of the completion of this report will assist in the preparation of a new 5 year Consolidated Plan in 2020.

## Affordable Housing

### AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

#### Introduction

Despite the new units being created every year, the need for additional deeply subsidized affordable units in Northampton remains great. Over 450 applications were received by Valley CDC for the newly created 55 apartments at the Lumber Yard Apartments. The bulk of the applications were from those with the lowest income levels. Rent up at Live 155 last year looked similar. The demand for the units renting at the 30% of area median income level and below, is huge. The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher list maintained at the Northampton Housing Authority has been closed since 2014. There are 229 households on that waiting list. The NHA does not plan to open that list for at least three years from now. The wait for Federal and State housing units at the NHA for both elderly/disabled and families is at least two years. Although the NHA states they do not have enough resources to participate in the small area Fair Market Rent program, they do utilize a 108% rate on the 2018 FMR's, which was implemented last year. This increased rate significantly improved the ability for new voucher holders to lease up with area landlords. There was a drop in the Fair Market rents in 2019 but the NHA did not change their payment standard to reflect the loss, therefore no voucher holders were negatively impacted.

The Northampton Housing Authority owns and manages 619 affordable units in Northampton. There are 50 units of Federal family housing (Florence Heights), 80 units of State family housing (Hampshire Heights), 60 Federal Elderly 62+and Disabled (McDonald House) and 377 State units of elderly 60+/Disabled located in Forsander, Cahill Apts., Tobin Manor and Salvo House. The NHA also administers 6 projected based MRVP vouchers (Mass Rental Voucher Program) and 856 Housing Choice Vouchers.

Northampton continues to work diligently with community partners to create housing opportunities in the City. If actual units are not added every year, projects enter the pipe line. Between the Live 155 Development (70 units, 48 affordable) the Lumber Yard Apartments (55), Village Hill (65 new; 220+ total), the Sergeant House (16 new), the Northampton Teen Housing Project (8), 214 units will have or will be completed, in a five year period.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	324
Non-Homeless	3,400
Special-Needs	40
Total	3,764

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	1,780
The Production of New Units	24

Annual Action Plan  
2019

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rehab of Existing Units	15
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	1,819

**Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**

## Discussion

It is difficult to provide an accurate count, depending on how HUD defines "households to be supported" and people served often utilize multiple services in a one year period. For instance, someone might attend MANNA meals while living in an SRO unit and being assisted by the SRO Outreach Coordinator.

The number of homeless households to be supported is the tally of the anticipated annual number to be served at the Grove Street Inn (90) and the Hampshire County Interfaith Winter Shelter (200) , as well as the 17 emergency shelter beds administered by Soldier On (assuming one turnover)  $17 \times 2 = 34$ ). The beds at Safe Passage's Emergency Shelter for Victims of Domestic Violence ( capacity of 6 families) are not reflected, as not all participants are considered homeless. The number of non-homeless to be supported is the tally of all public service grantees annual counts from last year, minus the two shelter counts. The number of special needs households to be supported is an estimate of the number of Department of Mental Health and Department of Developmental Services residential units in the community; the exact number of each will not be verified by either system, or the Dept. of Housing and Community Development.

The rental assistance number is the count from the Northampton Housing Authority relative to VASH (285) and Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers (874). The numbers administered by other Housing Authorities are not available.

The number of newly produced units reflects the 4 units in the newly constructed Northampton TeenHousing building (housing and support services for unaccompanied homeless youth), the 16 new units at the 82 Bridge Street /Sergeant House SRO building and 4 new Habitat homeownership units (Glendale Road). The 4 units brought on line last year in the existing building for the TeenHousing project, are not reflected here. The 15 existing units at the Sergeant House being renovated into enhanced SRO units are reflected in the "Rehab of Existing Units" line. No existing units are proposed for acquisition in this program year.

## **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

### **Introduction**

#### **Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing**

The Northampton Housing Authority plans on undertaking the following projects in the 2019-2020 program year:

##### Federal Properties:

McDonald House - Elevator replacement Phase 1 and generator replacement

Florence Heights - Installation of new siding; cabinet, counter top and appliance replacement

##### State Properties:

Salvo House - Power wash the exterior, installation of security cameras in the elevators

Hampshire Heights - Basement water mitigation and Phase 1 of window replacements

Cahill Apartments - Installation of handicap access ramps at the entrances to 3 buildings in the development

#### **Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership**

When homeownership and down payment assistance opportunities are presented, such as through the Wayfinder's Housing Consumer Education Center, the Northampton Housing Authority publicizes these opportunities to the residents. The NHA formally recognized the creation of a Tenants Association at Hampshire Heights (State family housing development) and continues to work with McDonald House, and Forsander Tenant Associations. A meeting is also held yearly for federal properties for the Capital Fund Program, to solicit input on needed renovation projects. The NHA participates in the dissemination of smoking cessation materials when tenants move into a unit and continues to install smoking shelters at developments annually as needed. The NHA sponsors tenant events, produces a newsletter, works with the State's LEAP program for increasing educational attainment for residents of Hampshire Heights. The NHA will launch a website in August of 2019 which will allow increased communication with management and greater access to policies and procedures for residents. A new Resident Services Coordinator was hired in June of 2019 for the two family developments; Hampshire Heights and Florence Heights. With the ongoing collaborations, NHA residents will become more engaged in the

management of their housing and seek out and utilize increased resources to achieve enhanced economic empowerment and self-sufficiency.

**If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance**

The Northampton Housing Authority is not designated as "troubled".

**Discussion**

The Northampton Housing Partnership, through the leadership of member Edgar Cancel, is working collaboratively with Housing Authority staff and residents to install playground equipment at Hampshire Heights. An application to the Community Preservation Committee will be submitted in September of 2019 for the project. This project will tie in with a community gardens program being implemented by residents with assistance from Healthy Hampshire. Florence Heights will be examined as well, for possible outdoor opportunities there. The NHA was encouraged this spring to apply for CDBG funding for physical plant improvements at other properties. This manifested in an award of \$95,000 of CDBG dollars to accomplish handicap accessibility enhancements at several Housing Authority properties.

## **AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)**

### **Introduction**

**Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including**

**Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs**

The City of Northampton works in close partnership with Eliot Homeless Services. Eliot is the selected vendor with the Statewide contract from the Department of Mental Health to administer the PATH Program (Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness). This grant provides street outreach clinicians in these Western Mass. communities - Pittsfield, Greenfield, Amherst, Northampton, Holyoke, Westfield and Springfield. The PATH worker in Northampton has been in the position more than 20 years and knows the population well. The clinician works closely with the Northampton Police Department, Tapestry Health and ServiceNet, Inc. to link clients with needed services and housing search. He is part of a group that assembles for case conferencing through HUD's coordinated entry system and they prioritize chronically homeless people for housing placement and services.

The PATH worker attends the CDBG Director's monthly Next Step Collaborative meetings and provides up to date information on the numbers and locations of people living outside. This helps guide outreach activities and informs the City about whether the existing shelter capacity will be sufficient for the season. He visits camps and conducts engagement and assessment activities. During the day, unsheltered people can access the Hampshire County Resource Center for additional case management work.

Dial-Self, the area agency serving homeless unaccompanied youth, employs staff that conduct outreach. Their workers connect with young people at meal and shelter sites. There are plans to enhance outreach to the encampments, and expand the interdisciplinarian team beyond the Eliot Clinician to include Tapestry staff (syringe use/safe disposal, opioid treatment) and ServiceNet Resource Center staff (service linkages and housing search).

The CDBG Director is monitoring a protocol that was developed last year with the City's Department of Public Works, the Board of Health, the Building Inspection office, the Office of Planning and Sustainability and Eliot Homeless Services to coordinate the response of City departments to the encampments. The number of unsheltered homeless living outside is increasing and Army Corps lands and conservation restricted lands are unable to host camps. The Police and EMS personnel sometimes need to access areas that have been blocked off for conservation purposes. DPW personnel have to go in and clean up abandoned camps where there may be trash and used drug paraphernalia. The effort here is to have social service providers engage with campers to inform them if the camp needs to be

vacated, so they can access services or at least protect their personal items and documents. Another goal is to protect campers and workers from potentially harmful camp conditions. Smith College has agreed to utilize the outreach team for assessment and engagement of people living in camps on property owned by the College. The Planning Department has cleaned up 3 sites so far this year, and the outreach team was able to engage with inhabitants beforehand and make service linkages.

Tapestry Health, the regional organization that has a needle exchange program and services in the City, is also examining how they could conduct street outreach activities as well. They have been an important voice at the Mayor's Work Group on At-Risk Street Populations, which has been meeting to catalog existing services and promote dialog between service providers, the business community, law enforcement and those engaging in street activity. A report from that effort will be produced at the end of June with opportunities for public input to follow.

### **Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

ServiceNet, Inc., the administrator of the year round Grove Street Inn Emergency Shelter for Individuals and the Hampshire County Interfaith Winter Shelter (in partnership with the Friends of Hampshire County Homeless Individuals) struggles to keep both programs operational. HUD's focus on permanent supported housing negates the fact that not everyone is ready for permanent housing. There is still a need for emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. ESG and CDBG are two of the only sources to fund emergency shelters. ServiceNet has to utilize private donations, and other agency funds to cover costs.

Transitional housing was a successful model that allowed intensive case management and the time needed for people to hone the skills needed for long term housing stability. Most of all of the prior transitional housing programs funded through the Continuum of Care have been converted to permanent supported housing units, to conform with HUD's funding priorities. As a result, the only transitional housing programs with a 24 month length of stay limit operating in Northampton are the 163 beds managed by Soldier On at the VA Medical Campus which includes 16 units recently created for women Veterans and their children.

Northampton does not have a generic emergency shelter for families, and there are no families living in encampments that have been discovered to date. As a result, most of the City's homeless services coordination work is focused on individuals. There is a need for increased services for women, as there is an increasing number of women in the shelters. Many have been traumatized by domestic violence and have mental health and substance use disorder challenges. There are couples living outside as well, because if they go into shelter, they will be separated. The Safe Passage shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children is always full and the Center for Human Development's Grace House for women in recovery and their children, is always at full capacity. There is also a need to accommodate people living unsheltered with pets. It is virtually impossible however, to encourage an agency to create new programming to address these needs, due to the insufficient funding sources that exist for

emergency shelter programs.

With the two downtown shelters for individuals in Northampton, and the satellite overflow site ServiceNet oversees at a church in Easthampton as well as Craig's Doors in Amherst, there are no plans currently to increase shelter capacity this coming year. During the coldest days this past winter, ServiceNet was able to accommodate the numbers in need between the three sites.

The first meeting of the Next Step Collaborative held in September always begins the analysis of shelter capacity. Numbers of people living outside are accounted for, in order to gauge bed capacity for shelter. Regionally, the Worthington Street Shelter in Springfield is always at or exceeding capacity, the Samaritan Inn in Westfield has strict admission requirements and is also usually full. The numbers of people from Hampden County being sheltered in Hampshire County increase yearly, so an emergency shelter in Holyoke would be an asset to the region. The Hampden Continuum of Care, under the leadership of the Springfield Housing Director, has begun to place McKinney funded permanent supported housing units for the chronically homeless in Holyoke, which is a much needed development.

The Northampton CDBG Director facilitated a meeting in January of this year to brainstorm the development of a Safe Havens model in Northampton. Several small projects in existing homes housing 4-6 participants each, in a true Housing First model, is the City's goal. Bi-weekly meetings are being held with the Department of Mental Health to see if at least one project can get underway.

**Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again**

The City utilizes the Hampshire County Resource Center, located at 43 Center Street, administered by ServiceNet, Inc. as the main entry point for homeless individuals to access services. The Center has case managers, Health Care for the Homeless nurses and doctors and a benefits specialist. Food, laundry and showers are available. During the winter months, the space also houses the Hampshire Interfaith Winter Shelter with capacity for 22 individuals. The Center for Human Development now manages permanent supported housing units through the CoC, to which referrals can be made. (ServiceNet gave up their McKinney allocation of \$600,000 annually/60 units and CHD has stepped in to continue that administration).

As part of the implementation of the new coordinated entry system, there is now a 1-800 number to call for service referral. REACH meetings (Regional Engagement and Assessment of Chronically Homeless people) have evolved into Coordinated Entry meetings. Relevant service providers meet weekly and monthly to assess and place chronically homeless people when housing placements exist. The City's



Veterans Agent participates when Veterans are identified in need of assistance. Dial/Self staff participate when someone between the ages of 18-24 present for services. Jessie's House in Amherst addresses the needs of families finding themselves homeless, through referrals from the Department of Transitional Assistance. Grace House in Northampton houses women in recovery and their children through a closed referral process from the Department of Public Health. Safe Passage serves those affected by domestic violence. All of these programs work with participants to assess their needs and provide case management with the goal of helping them transition to permanent housing and independent living. The length of stay depends on how quickly a participant can address the obstacles they face that may prevent them from accessing housing, and the availability of a unit.

The City is cognizant of the need for housing, in order to facilitate the ability of people to move forward and out of homelessness. The renovation and expansion of the Sergeant House SRO (82 Bridge Street), the new construction of Live 155 and the Lumber Yard Apartments, the Northampton Teen Housing Program through Dial Self, and the new rental housing proposed for Village Hill are all developments that will increase the number of housing opportunities available to those income eligible and housing ready households, creating movement in the community. True Housing First units are now being prioritized for development. The CDBG funded public service agencies doing housing stabilization work (SRO Outreach, Community Legal Aid), the CPC funded Community Housing Support Services Program and Resident Service Coordinators at the Housing Authority and larger apartment complexes, all work diligently to prevent people from returning to homelessness.

This section heading speaks to goals achievable only with the presence of an active, fully resourced support services network. It is very difficult to find adequate resources to fund the types of staff positions focused on housing stabilization. Federal and State agencies need to fully support funding these positions. It is difficult locally as well, as the Community Preservation Committee prefers to fund projects, vs. positions.

**Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.**

Public systems that have adopted policies stating they will not discharge people into homelessness can only implement this practice if there are other options. Each of these systems should contribute to creating these options. For example, people being released from the correctional system, should have a system of next step housing in the community for their inmates to access. Similarly, sufficient numbers of mental health recovery residences, and detox beds, need to exist. These public systems cannot depend on being able to refer people to local shelters, because rarely is there an open bed. Prevention and diversion strategies only work when other resource options are available. The City will continue to

work with the Regional Network on those broader systemic solutions.

In the limited capacity that it can, the City will continue to support, with CDBG funding and advocacy, the SRO Outreach Program and the Community Legal Aid Homeless Prevention Program, to allow them to work with residents whose tenancies are at risk. The SRO Outreach Coordinator can help a tenant mediate a dispute with a landlord to avoid eviction, and the CLA Attorneys conduct advocacy at Housing Court which often results in payment plans to preserve the tenancy. The City, through the Community Preservation Committee will continue to support the Community Housing Support Services Program that works with court involved residents facing eviction for non-payment issues. The CPC awarded the program an additional year of funding that expires in 2020. These programs serve more than 100 households annually and have very high success rates for preserving tenancies.

Social workers from the Cooley Dickinson Hospital attend the Next Step Collaborative meetings to network with service providers. They will contact ServiceNet to identify available beds prior to releasing a patient into homelessness. Soldier On will pick up any Veteran being released from the Hampshire County House of Corrections, who does not have a place to go identified. The City's Veterans Agent does extensive case management and works closely with Soldier On and the Northampton Housing Authority who administers the regions VASH units.

The City also advocates for and utilizes the State funded Tenancy Preservation Program that works with households at risk in the Pioneer Valley. They have developed an expertise around assisting tenants at risk of eviction due to hoarding issues. Dial/Self works closely with the Department of Families and Children, and the Department of Youth Services to address youth being discharged from the foster care system. Dial/Self provides housing and support services to this population and the first 4 of their 8 units on Hatfield Street are now operational. The new building, to be completed in the fall (2019) will provide 4 additional residential units, as well as a common area and office space for case management services for at risk unaccompanied homeless youth.

Most of the public services agencies funded by the City with CDBG directly or indirectly prevent homelessness. Increasing language competency in order to secure work and economic self-sufficiency, accessing free food to be better able to afford housing costs, preparing at risk youth for employment opportunities and career paths, are some examples. Enhancing self-worth, life skills and educational attainment for better employment, are all critical components to having stable housing and healthy livelihoods.

## **Discussion**

CDBG funding will continue to be provided to the City's two shelters for staffing. The CDBG Director participates on the Interfaith Shelter's Management Committee which oversees the operation of the winter shelter, in conjunction with ServiceNet, Inc. and the Friends of the Homeless. Collaborative advocacy and support will be provided to Safe Passage for the operation of their emergency family shelter for victims of domestic violence and to Soldier On for their emergency and transitional beds that

serve men and women Veterans. The CDBG Director will continue to facilitate monthly meetings with the City's homeless service providers at the Next Step Collaborative, to insure services are coordinated and utilized effectively. City updates are provided with regard to the production of new units, which is the key to successful movement for people working to exit homelessness.

Elders who may be at risk are served by Highland Valley Elder Services, the Northampton Housing Authority, Northampton's Council on Aging and the Senior Center. Services include home modification grants/loan to age in place, home delivered meals, public housing and outreach, education and socialization opportunities. The EARN program, formerly supported by CDBG and now self sufficient, provides an opportunity for income maximization for elders not able to survive on Social Security or savings alone after retirement.

Households with members who are disabled can be served by Stavros Center for Independent Living, the Department of Developmental Services and the Mass. Rehabilitation Commission. Households with members experiencing mental health issues are served by ServiceNet, Inc., Community Support Options and the Department of Mental Health. A newly created and opened Recovery Center located at 2 Gleason Plaza serves as a day drop in and resource center for those in recovery from substance use and mental health disorders. DMH and DDS have residential programs that operate in the City, with 24/7 hour staffing supports.

The Department of Public Health opened a detox facility three years ago in Greenfield, which increased the bed capacity for those in need of such a facility and treatment. Gandara Mental Health Center operates Hairston House, the Alliance for Sober Living and the Maple Avenue house in Northampton for those in recovery from substance use. Victims of domestic violence access Safe Passage for emergency hot line information and referrals, emergency shelter, legal advocacy and case management services. People living with HIV/Aids can be served by A Positive Place for housing subsidies and support services which operates out of Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton.

With all the newly created affordable housing units in Northampton, as well as those in the pipeline, none actually function as true housing first units - where people are met where they are, with less than stellar landlord histories, active addiction issues, poor credit histories or other challenges. Those are the units the City still needs to create, in order to accomplish any significant movement of people out of the emergency shelter system. Tenant selection policies, multi year waiting lists and insufficient incomes to afford "affordable" housing, remain huge obstacles to truly addressing the needs of people experiencing homelessness. The irony is, we need to create the kind of homes that used to exist, where people who just needed a small, affordable safe place to live their lives, without excessive scrutiny, could reside in our community.

## AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

### Introduction:

**Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment**

"Unlocking Opportunity - An Assessment of Barriers to Fair Housing Choice in Northampton" will be completed by June 30, 2019. The project began in the summer of 2018. The consultant working with the Northampton Housing Partnership is the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. CDBG staff and Partnership members, in conjunction with PVPC successfully assembled and facilitated 10 stakeholder sessions, 4 focus groups, a lively public session as well as a survey to accomplish community engagement. The recommendations and actions that the report will articulate will form the base of work for the Housing Partnership moving forward. The Housing Partnership serves as the City's Fair Housing Committee and members have been very involved in this process. Some of the barriers identified in the Draft Report are as follows:

*Rising cost of housing, substandard housing and lead paint, complexity of accessing the affordable housing system, jobs/employment and a living wage, the need for units accessible to people aging and people with disabilities, cultural awareness and language access, lack of knowledge and public education regarding fair housing rights, the need for more two+ bedroom homes, discrimination based on race and country of origin, local preferences at the Northampton Housing Authority limiting regional mobility, service agencies being underresourced and understaffed, the need for resources to improve credit scores, limited public transportation options and housing struggles faced by people leaving correctional facilities.*

Other areas related to zoning and development are being examined, although most of the barriers within the control of City departments have been ameliorated. The report recommendations will be presented to the City Council in the fall, as they are the body that provided funding for the effort. The Housing Partnership will build in implementation updates to its monthly agendas. The Zoning Sub-Committee of the Housing Partnership will work closely with the Office of Planning and Sustainability to implement any zoning revisions that result from the fair housing analysis, such as making the creation of multi-family units permissible by right in all zoning districts.

The Massachusetts Fair Housing Center will continue to do community education and outreach at various venues in Northampton during the next program year, and will process complaints of discrimination originating in the City. The Housing Partnership will hold an educational session in the fall for local landlords to learn about support services available should they choose to house a Veteran with a VASH voucher, or a person exiting homelessness. Building code issues, fair housing law and lead paint

abatement information will also be presented.

**Discussion:**

## **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction:**

The City can and will play a critical role in facilitating communication and collaboration in the face of limited community resources. It is imperative that our service delivery system operate as efficiently and effectively as possible to meet the needs of residents. The City will support people and organizations carrying out public service programming, preserving and creating affordable housing, increasing peoples economic self-sufficiency, enhancing public facilities and infrastructure to improve the life quality of people that may be underserved, have insufficient incomes and/or face challenges that hinder them from achieving their goals.

### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

Specifically, the City will support and participate in the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness, the Rural Three County Continuum of Care, the Next Step Collaborative, the Northampton Housing Partnership and the committees of the Network, to stay informed and proactive on a regional and local level. This involvement informs the work of the Mayor's Office and relevant City departments to insure that local government is an active and responsive partner in addressing obstacles faced by people facing challenges.

As identified in last year's Action Plan, a high priority need is for housing and services for women. Dialogue will continue to occur with Safe Passage to determine if they are interested in developing housing options for victims of domestic violence. To date, the agency has focused on consolidating and renovating new office space and do not have housing development as a part of their strategic plan, at this time.

The creation of true housing first units, perhaps in congregate settings, similar to the old Safe Havens model will be pursued in the new program year. At a meeting held by the CDBG Director in January of 2019, 30+ attendees began to brainstorm this topic. The traditional non-profit housing developers expressed no desire to enter this realm. The One Stop Applications typically submitted by these entities (Valley CDC and Way Finders) will not fund smaller projects. The Sergeant House Project ( 31 units ) will be a 7 million dollar project; the Lumber Yard Project ( 55 units of affordable housing ) is a 19 million dollar project, as was Live 155 ( 70 units ). The State's newly created Community Scale Initiative Program will be providing funding for the 35 Village Hill Road mixed income mixed use project which will contain 12 units. But true Housing First units, that really should not be developed without solid support services dollars, are hard to create. The non-profit housing developers have said that HUD's McKinney funding works better for subsidies than for development but it is difficult to utilize HUD funds. This is because coordinating HUD funding cycles ( where the dollars are not actually forthcoming for a year or more, as one applies in advance) with the State funds needed for the development costs, are very hard to mesh. Due to the time delays for all funding decisions, it is very hard for a non-profit to ask a seller to wait, as few have the funds for acquisition at the ready, when a property becomes available. As a result, local

discussion will be about how to utilize CDBG and CPC dollars to purchase existing homes and work to identify where support service dollars can come from. There is new movement in the health care realm, as Accountable Care Organizations, through hospital systems have service dollars available. CSO (Community Support Options) a regional mental health agency has received a three year SAMHSA grant that has created local clinics that can provide services to the homeless and others, and can make home visits to people who have difficulty coming to the clinic settings. Much energy is required to knit all the disparate components together to create these supported housing opportunities, but the City is committed.

The City will support with CDBG funds, the agencies that provide direct front line services to those finding themselves most in need in our community. The on-going communication with those entities through meetings and interactive monitoring sessions facilitates coordinated responses to meeting the needs of those underserved. The City will work with the Mass Fair Housing Center to insure people who feel they have been discriminated against have a path for recourse. The City will also work with the Northampton Housing Authority staff and Board of Commissioners to support their efforts to maximize opportunities for self-sufficiency for their residents.

### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

The Department of Housing and Community Development's Subsidized Housing Inventory of formally subsidized housing units is monitored continually by the CDBG Director and the Housing Partnership. Work was done last year to try to preserve affordability at Leeds Village Apartments. City staff worked with the Holyoke Housing Authority to assign some Mobility to Work vouchers to the property. The subsidy amount was not high enough for the owner to agree to accept. The property will continue to serve residents with vouchers, but the efforts to project base some subsidies was not successful. No other expiring use dates are occurring in the next decade, as most of the newer projects are affordable in perpetuity, or don't expire until 2030 and after.

Recent funding expenditures to foster affordable housing creation are still being implemented. CDBG and Community Preservation Act funding has been allocated in the past few years with projects coming to fruition regularly. Live 155 (70 units/ \$150,000 CDBG) opened last spring (2018); the Lumber Yard Apartments (55 units/\$200,000 CDBG) is opening in June of 2019; the Friends of the Homeless-Dial/Self Teen Housing Project for unaccompanied homeless youth will complete its second phase and have 8 units available this fall (2019/ \$65,000 CDBG); Village Hill North (53 units/\$150,000 CDBG) is awaiting funding from the State for a One Stop application submitted in February of 2019; 35 Village Hill Road (12 units) is fully funded and will begin construction this summer (2019). Construction has just begun on the renovation/expansion of the Sergeant House SRO (31 units/\$150,000 CDBG) and will be available for occupancy next March (2020). The 4 new homes being produced by Habitat for Humanity will all be on

line by mid 2020 (\$135,000 CDBG).

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

The City's Housing Rehabilitation Program will continue to include lead paint abatement as an eligible activity. All units addressed by the program are tested for lead, and abatement occurs when required. The program parameter of permitting up to \$45,000 to be spent per unit was designed specifically to be able to address lead paint abatement if needed. The City's Board of Health continues to maintain the data base they created, to have an up to date inventory of units that have been certified as lead free. The annual letter from the Mayor to every landlord in the community thanking them for their contribution to the housing inventory contains information on lead paint laws and resources for abatement. Levels of childhood lead poisoning remain low according to the State's Department of Public Health, but the City is aware that lead paint is a silent discriminator when landlords refuse units to families so they can avoid deleading. The public education campaign that will result from the Analysis of Impediments report will address increasing information dissemination about this illegal practice.

### **Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families**

The City will work to support the MANNA Soup Kitchen, the SRO Outreach Program Food Pantry and the Northampton Survival Center to address food insecurity and free up income for housing costs. The Literacy Project, The Center for New Americans and Community Action's Youth Employment Readiness Program will assist residents with economic empowerment. Valley CDC's Small Business Assistance Program helps people with low incomes to start businesses to increase household income and create jobs. This program, typically in receipt of \$10,000 in CDBG funds each year, was allocated \$20,000 this year to enhance the program offerings.

The City's Community Preservation Committee will continue to fund the Community Housing Support Services Program this year. The CHSSP Manager works with court involved families facing eviction for non-payment issues. Working intensively with each family, the goal is to impart information to develop financial budgeting skills, life skills and maximize earning potential that will move a family out of crisis into housing stability and hopefully out of poverty.

The Northampton City Council supports the work of the Living Wage Campaign and publicly acknowledges employers in the community that pay a living wage. The Pioneer Valley Workers Center advocates for disenfranchised workers to secure higher pay and safe and respectful work environments. They do education and outreach to insure employees are aware of their rights and responsibilities and strives to improve employer/employee relationships.

CDBG funds have been allocated this year to Community Action's Resource and Advocacy Center (formerly First Call for Help) where people can call in and receive direct assistance to access resources and benefits. Bi-lingual staff are available to serve the Latinx community, as Community Action has absorbed some of the services formerly delivered by Casa Latina, which has been dissolved. The CDBG



Director and Community Legal Aid have been active in securing local services from Way Finders in Housing Court and for RAFT application intakes, so local service providers and clients don't have to drive to Springfield to access those resources. There is also an effort to identify a location for a laptop/kiosk sponsored by the Department of Transitional Assistance so people can access SNAP benefits on line, without having to go to the Holyoke office to apply.

### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

With regular monthly meetings of the Northampton Housing Partnership, the Next Step Collaborative, the Chronically Homeless Coordinated Entry meetings and the various monthly meetings of the Western Mass Network to End Homelessness ( services for individuals, families, youth, Veterans), the CDBG Director stays current on issues. The quarterly meetings of the Valley CDC Property Management and Service Providers and other regional meetings such as the Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission's Housing Plan Implementation Committee, the Inclusive Communities Advisory Group and COSA/Council on Social Service agencies; provide additional input.

The Next Step Collaborative meetings are attended by providers working with sheltered and unsheltered people, Veterans, people with HIV/Aids, residents of the SRO's, homeless and formerly homeless consumers. The Housing Partnership is composed of a landlord, a clergy person, a legal aid attorney, a retired VA Social Worker, a Housing Authority tenant, a domestic violence professional, a Smith College professor, the Chair of the Planning Board and interested citizens.

The information about needs and City priorities is funneled to the Mayor's Office through all these interactions. The institutional structure that exists is comprehensive and effective. City collaborations have been enhanced recently by the addition of the Chair of the Planning Board as a full member on the Housing Partnership; a requirement by the Community Preservation Committee that all housing proposals be vetted first by the Housing Partnership; the presence of a Housing Partnership member on the Technical Review Committee which provides a venue for project proponents to have their plans reviewed by City departments and boards prior to official submission; and a closer working relationship with the Northampton Housing Authority.

### **Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies**

The City will continue to support the Community Housing Support Services Program which works primarily with tenants of the Northampton Housing Authority and Meadowbrook Apartments. Close collaboration with the property managers, resident services coordinators, attorneys and case managers to accomplish housing stabilization saves money and stress for all parties involved. The Coordinator will work on budgeting, life skills and income maximization to assist residents with housing stabilization. Property managers support the CHSSP program, as it results in less eviction cases, legal costs and unit turnover expenses. Meetings will be held with the Center for Human Development during the next

program year to identify future funding once the CPC funds are exhausted (mid 2020).

The City will continue to support and attend the sessions between the Valley CDC and Wayfinders as they meet with social service providers engaged in housing stabilization efforts for their tenants. These affordable housing developers and property managers strive to support their tenants to prevent evictions. The CDBG Director attends these meetings to identify broader issues that the City can address through workshops, training and networking collaborations. For example, City staff made the linkages between Easthampton Savings Bank, Meadowbrook Apartments and the CHSSP Coordinator to sponsor a financial literacy workshop for Meadowbrook residents.

Wayfinders will be managing the Lumber Yard Apartments and the Sergeant House for Valley CDC when those projects are completed. This is in addition to their own properties - Paradise Pond Apartments, the Earle Street SRO, Live 155 and the Lorraine SRO at 96 Pleasant Street. Valley utilizes HMR Property Management for the Maples, Millbank, the King Street SRO and the School Street apartments. HMR is familiar with social service agencies providing housing stabilization work for tenants and all interface collaboratively. Valley CDC and Wayfinders also work in partnership to develop, own and manage affordable housing for the City and region.

The City will continue to work with the Northampton Housing Authority's Resident Services Coordinators to insure they are aware of local resources to enhance self sufficiency for their tenants. The NHA recently hired an RSC for Hampshire Heights, in addition to Florence Heights, to serve the families in their public housing developments, an exciting step forward. The City is actively working to identify grant sources to install playground equipment at Hampshire Heights, and has secured design services for schematics to use for grant applications.

The Coordinated Entry meetings have identified the need for more landlords to be willing to accept chronically homeless people. The City will participate in adjusting the agenda at the annual landlord workshop in the fall of 2019 to add the Veterans Agent, ServiceNet and other providers who wish to address this gathering. The City's Veterans agent has presented in the past, to encourage landlords to utilize VASH vouchers and come forward to house homeless Veterans. The same can be done for other sub-populations at this venue.

#### **Discussion:**

## Program Specific Requirements

### AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(l)(1,2,4)

#### Introduction:

#### Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

##### Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
<b>Total Program Income:</b>	<b>0</b>

#### Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	90.00%

The Plan details how funds expected from the 2019 grant (B-19-MC-25-0027) will be expended including anticipated income from various loans of \$1,252. These loans consist of a 1st time home buyer repayment of \$21.08 per month and a housing development loan payment of \$1,000 per year. Additional program income, if any, is unknown as it is dependent on whether or not deferred housing rehab and home repair loans are paid off. Over the past several years, due to the difficult economic situation, the City has seen few repayments. The majority of homeowners request subordinations. All unanticipated program income received during the prior program year has been allocated in this year's document.

This plan covers overall benefit from the program years 2017, 2018, 2019.



**Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**

**\* 1. Type of Submission:**

- ☐ Preapplication  
☒ Application  
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

**\* 2. Type of Application:**

- ☒ New  
☐ Continuation  
☐ Revision

\* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

\* Other (Specify):

\* 3. Date Received:

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

**State Use Only:**

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

**8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

\* a. Legal Name:

City of Northampton

\* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

04-6001406

\* c. Organizational DUNS:

0792174440000

**d. Address:**

\* Street1:

210 Main Street

Street2:

\* City:

Northampton

County/Parish:

\* State:

MA: Massachusetts

Province:

\* Country:

USA: UNITED STATES

\* Zip / Postal Code:

01060

**e. Organizational Unit:**

Department Name:

Division Name:

**f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:**

Prefix:

Ms.

\* First Name:

Margaret

Middle Name:

\* Last Name:

Keller

Suffix:

Title: CDBG Director

Organizational Affiliation:

\* Telephone Number:

(413) 587-1288

Fax Number:

\* Email:

pkeller@northamptonma.gov

**Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**

**\* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

\* Other (specify):

**\* 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

Department of Housing and Urban Development

**11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:**

CFDA Title:

**\* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

\* Title:

**13. Competition Identification Number:**

Title:

**14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):**

**\* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

Community Development Block Grant

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

**Application for Federal Assistance SF-424****16. Congressional Districts Of:**

\* a. Applicant

MA002

\* b. Program/Project

CDBG

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

**17. Proposed Project:**

\* a. Start Date:

07/01/2019

\* b. End Date:

06/30/2020

**18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

\* a. Federal

670,267.00

\* b. Applicant

\* c. State

\* d. Local

\* e. Other

487,947.71

\* f. Program Income

5,000

\* g. TOTAL

1,163,218

**\* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.**\* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

21. \*By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications\*\* and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances\*\* and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)

☒ \*\*I AGREE

\*\* The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

**Authorized Representative:**

Prefix:

Mr.

\* First Name:

David

Middle Name:

\* Last Name:

Narkewicz

Suffix:

\* Title:

Mayor

\* Telephone Number:

(413) 587-1249

Fax Number:

\* Email:

mayor@northamptonma.gov

\* Signature of Authorized Representative:

\* Date Signed:

6/19/19



# ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Number: 4040-0009  
Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.**

**NOTE:** Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:


1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
9. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
10. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681 1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

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Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
12. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
13. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333) regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
14. Will comply with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
15. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
16. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
17. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
20. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
	MAYOR
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION	DATE SUBMITTED
CITY OF NORTH MYRTON	6/18/19

## CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

**Affirmatively Further Fair Housing** --The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing.

**Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan** -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42 in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs.


**Anti-Lobbying** --To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

**Authority of Jurisdiction** --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

**Consistency with plan** --The housing activities to be undertaken with Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS funds are consistent with the strategic plan in the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

**Section 3** -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 135.

  
Signature of Authorized Official

6/12/19  
Date

MAYOR  
Title

## Specific Community Development Block Grant Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

**Citizen Participation** -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

**Community Development Plan** -- Its consolidated plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program (i.e., the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income) and requirements of 24 CFR Parts 91 and 570.

**Following a Plan** -- It is following a current consolidated plan that has been approved by HUD.

**Use of Funds** -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include CDBG-assisted activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available (see Optional CDBG Certification).

2. Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of CDBG funds, including Section 108 guaranteed loans, during program year(s) 2017, 2018, 2019 [a period specified by the grantee of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years], shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period.

3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

In addition, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.


**Excessive Force** -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

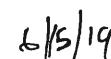
1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.


**Compliance with Anti-discrimination laws** -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations.

**Lead-Based Paint** -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, Subparts A, B, J, K and R.

**Compliance with Laws** -- It will comply with applicable laws.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Official

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

## **APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS**

### **INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LOBBYING CERTIFICATION:**

#### **Lobbying Certification**

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

## ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Number: 4040-0009  
Expiration Date: 01/31/2019

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.**

**NOTE:** Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
9. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
10. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681 1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

# Unlocking Opportunity: An Assessment of Barriers to Fair Housing Choice in Northampton

## Stakeholder/Focus Group Participation

Organizational Grouping	Organization	Representative(s)
Social Service Provider/ Housing Search Worker	Center for New Americans	Laurie Millman, Director
	Community Legal Aid	Jen Dieringer, Managing Attny. Mandy Winalski, Staff Attny.
	Catholic Charities	Kathryn Buckley Brawner, Dir.
	Pioneer Valley Workers Center	Gabriella della Croce
	Community Action	Janna Tetreault
	Department of Mental Health	Kate Shapiro, Chris Zabik
	Eliot Homeless Services	Jay Levy, Charlyn Arnell
	ServiceNet Resource Center	Katie Miernecki, Mike Trembley
	A Positive Place	Laura Hudson, Carmen Burgos
Property Management	HMR Properties	Liz Reno, Robbie Brooks
	ServiceNet, Inc.	Alex Spear
	The Community Builders	Yvette Tanguay, Julia Scannell
	Hathaway Farms	Jon Devins
	Mt. Holyoke Management	Julia Clinton
	Appleton Corporation	Donna Coyle, Georgette Gigliano
Housing Authorities	Northampton	Jack Redman
	Amherst	Pamela Rogers
	Franklin Regional	Hank Abrashkin
	Holyoke	Matt Mainville, Nick Ottomaniello, Donna Wagner
Disability Community Advocates	Northampton ADA Coordinator	Marie Westberg



	Stavros Center for Ind. Living	Jim Wolejko , Itheme Onyekaba, Joe Tringali
Surrounding Towns/ City Officials	Springfield	Gerry McCafferty, Housing Director
	Amherst	Julie Federman, Health Director
	Easthampton	Hayley Wood, COA
	Greenfield	MJ Adams, CD Director
Affordable Housing Providers	Valley CDC	Laura Baker, Real Estate Project Manager
	Way Finders	Peter Serafino, Project Dev.
	Habitat for Humanity	Megan McDonough, Director
	The Community Builders	Rachana Crowley, Proj. Mgr.
Realtors	Maple and Main	Julie Held
	5 Colleges	Alyx Akers
	Murphy's Real Estate	David Murphy
	Goggins Real Estate	Rachel Simpson
Local Government Officials	Mayor	David Narkewicz, Mayor
	Office of Planning and Sustainability	Wayne Feiden, Director
	Senior Services	Marie Westberg, Cynthia Langley, Michele Dihlmann
	Public Schools	Kelley Knight, Social Worker
	Housing Partnership	Jim Reis, Gordon Shaw, Rev. Todd Weir
Focus Groups	Affiliation	Number Participating
	Northampton Recovery Center	6 participants
	Hampshire County House of Corrections Pre-Release Program	10 participants
	Hampshire County Resource Center / Homeless	5 participants
	Safe Passages/ Shelter and Services for Victims of DV	2 participants

## **Action Plan Public Hearing Minutes February 13, 2019**

The Public Hearing for the Action Plan beginning July 1, 2019 began at 5:33 p.m. 14 individuals representing various agencies; Peg Keller, CDBG Administrator; and Cam Leon, Assistant CDBG Administrator attended.

Peg started the meeting by explaining the CDBG program, the public hearing process, the application process and stated the application is on the City's website; submissions are due February 28. She gave a summary of activities in process and/or completed this program year (see attached).

Public Service interviews will be held March 11 and 12 from noon to 3:00 in the City Hall Hearing Room; scheduling is still in process. Members of the review committee this year are Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra; Councilor Marianne LaBarge; Rev. Todd Weir, First Churches and Lionel Romain of CEDAC and Karen Bellavance-Grace, Human Rights Commission. After presentation of all the proposals, the Committee will deliberate and provide their recommendations for funding to the Mayor.

The Draft Plan will be published and a Public Hearing will be held March 27 at 5:30 to allow for a 30-day comment period before submittal to HUD on May 15. The meeting will be held in the City Hall.

### **Award**

Peg noted that at this point, we do not know what the award will be for the new program year although we are hopeful we will see level funding. The City's allocations for the past several years have been in the low \$600,000 range.

### **Items of Interest**

Faced with on-going and often daunting challenges, the Board of Casa Latina voted unanimously to join with Community Action of Pioneer Valley on November 27, 2018. Casa Latina began more than 40 years ago with Hampshire Community Action Commission and has been the only Latino led organization empowering area Latinos. This organizational change will secure the continuation of its services and resources. Clare Higgins – Community Action noted Casa Latina has filed with the Attorney General to dissolve the corporation.

Peg took a few moments to let people know that Cam is retiring the end of March after 25 years of handling the finances and helping to administer the grant.

### **Making a Difference**

Continuing with the effort to network and share ideas, some of the attendees presented a story of their choice to demonstrate how the work they do inspires them.

Peg started by mentioning a report she is writing for the Mayor on serving At-Risk Populations in the City, and those who engage in panhandling. A sensitive issue, it has taken a while to write. She has attended meetings around becoming a Trauma Informed community and learned about adverse childhood experiences, the science of addiction and the physiological effects of childhood trauma on the brain. She also facilitated a meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup> with homeless services providers and housing developers to brainstorm ideas on how to create Housing First units in Northampton. For some people

there are many barriers to accessing housing and there are no true Housing First, low threshold housing units in the City. This is a complicated and challenging issue across the country. Peg is writing the Mayor's Report on at-risk populations through the lens of being a trauma informed community. She said the information she has learned around these topics has been inspirational. Laurie - Center for New Americans acknowledged Peg for all the housing work she has done.

#### Judith Roberts– Literacy Project

Judith told stories about students. Azeezah took the new college readiness class and started at Holyoke Community College. Adam had to quit school in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and get a job to help the family. He is currently in the lower level class and works at Stop and Shop while studying to take the HiSet. "Some people think his job is to bag groceries, he feels his job is to help people," he said and told Judith she "has to keep financing the place because people like him have nowhere else to go".

Judith also mentioned two other students: Sudi, a refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sondra, a refugee from Haiti, both who are currently in the lower level classes.

#### Holly Kosisky – Community Action

Spoke for the youth who go through all the programs, for some, the program is their home away from home. One youth in particular, who initially started in the drop-in program eventually got involved in Gen Q and moved into some leadership roles. He took a tour of Greenfield Community College and decided to enroll but did not stay due to a mental health crisis; this gave him the idea to work in social services. He did a couple of summer programs and got an internship at the Senior Center where he began helping seniors with their cell phones. He became so popular; this led to teaching classes in technology at the Senior Center. He told Holly he has a new respect for his high school teacher who has to deal with some very rowdy kids. He is now back in college for social services and still providing services at the Senior Center around technology.

#### Laurie Millman – Center for New Americans

Spoke about three events. During one event, Congressman McGovern visited. All the students researched the website and prepared questions for him. The students introduced themselves, told the Congressman where they were from and proceeded to ask their questions. The Congressman engaged with the students for an hour and a half before moving on to the Literacy Project.

The second event involved the new president of GCC, an immigrant herself from Haiti. Again, students prepared questions, which she readily answered. Some refugees have no literacy skills and speaking with her gave them a sense of what they can accomplish. In January, the Center held the "end of semester celebration". Students introduced themselves, their teachers and their goals. One student in African dress presented. The event helps show newer students leadership possibilities.

#### Linda Desmond and Penny Geis – Senior Center EARN Program

Linda began by saying thank you for past CDBG funds and stated as promised the first year they applied for start-up funds, they will not be submitting for funds this year. In collaboration with Mass Hire, Valley CDC and RSVP, many people over 60 seeking jobs were introduced to employers seeking mature workers. They will be holding their fourth job fair soon. In October, board members presented at the Mass Council on Aging Conference; they were invited to return next year.

Penny stated through the network she got a temporary job, leading to call back this year as a supervisor. She said network meetings are supportive, once seeing one woman attending who was almost in tears

because she did not realize others were in her situation. Later at the meeting, a couple participants decided to form a partnership and start a business. She thanked everyone in the room for the work they do.

Katherine Baker – Northampton Neighbors

Northampton Neighbors is volunteer/member driven. Membership is free and services are provided for individuals 55 years and older allowing them to remain in their home. Currently there are 620 members. A grant from the Community Foundation for outreach to isolated at-risk elderly is due to end June 2019. A neighborhood circle started at Salvo house in an effort to build relationships and give tenants a chance to socialize with each other. 30-40 people attended. One man, who has lived there for 17 years said this was the first time he spoke to people that lived around him. Two people stepped up to take the lead; meetings continue monthly.

Jessie Cooley – Big Brothers Big Sisters

Spoke about Youth Mentor Day at the Statehouse. The program always tries to bring both “bigs” and “littles”. This year, a 12-year old girl went with her “big”. Both were nervous around meeting with the legislators. Of the five newly elected legislators, four are women. With each meeting, the 12 year old got more comfortable. By the end of the day, she said she was going to run for governor. Women in powerful roles are her new normal. She now understands how she is part of the process.

Josh Wren – ServiceNet Homeless Resource Center

Told a story about an African American, bewildered and tired middle aged woman who became homeless after foreclosure on her house. She had never been to Northampton but liked the area and began to get involved in going to a local church. She presented with challenges due to trauma and staying in a winter shelter proved difficult after being a homeowner most of her life. When the winter shelter closed, she moved to the Grove Street shelter but found it difficult there as well. Fortunately, she found at the Wright House for Women in Easthampton. The Wright House supports homeless women in a congregate setting giving them a chance to address their challenges and rebuild their lives. She has been living there about seven months and is doing better. She still goes to the Resource Center and is now trying to help others.

Janna Tetreault – Community Action

Commented on her amazing community resources and advocacy staff who answered over 5,000 calls last year from Franklin and Hampshire counties from people looking for help. Staff also meet with people one on one.

Mandy Winalski – Community Legal Aid

Spoke about housing court where it seems property owners always have lawyers but the tenants never do. Recently a man, in process of eviction from the Northampton Housing Authority for non-payment of rent went to the office. Mandy helped the man’s friend in the past. The Housing Authority files in District Court (where mediation and support services are not offered) rather than Housing Court. Mandy called the man’s attorney and had it transferred for his representation in Housing Court.

Penny Geis – Senior Center EARN Program

Stated the meeting was beautiful.

The meeting ended at 7:14 p.m.

**ACTION PLAN PUBLIC HEARING**  
**February 13, 2019 5:30 p.m.**

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name

Agency

E-Mail

Katie Miernecki	ServiceNet	kmiernecki@servicenet.org
Janna Tetreault	Community Action	jtetreault@communityaction.org
Myck LeMay	Community Action	mlmay@communityaction.org
Holly Kosisky	Community Action	hkosisky@communityaction.org
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Mandy Winalski	Legal Aid	awinalski@cla-ma.org
Jessie Cooley	Big Brothers Big Sisters	jcooley@cbd.org
Laune Milne	Centre for Women	laune@cwma.org
Joanne Campbell	Valley Community Dev	JC@valleycdc.com
Clare Higgins	Community Action	
Kathelina Baker	Northampton Neighbors	
Judith Roberts	The Literacy Project	

## **Northampton CDBG Program Experiences over the past 12 months**

**2.13.19**

Due to a tight housing market and multiple offer situations on affordable homes for sale in Northampton, we are aware of 4 households over the past 12 months who did not exercise their rights to inspect for lead paint during the inspection process outlined in their excepted offers. In Massachusetts, buyers have a right to inspect for lead paint during the inspection process.

The Northampton Downpayment Assistance Program that assists buyers with \$4000 towards downpayment and closing costs for LMI buyers requires households with children under 6 to inspect for lead paint and sign an agreement to delead the property if lead paint is present prior to moving in to the property.

All buyers are subject to correcting chipping or peeling paint at the property prior to closing even if children do not reside in the household. If lead is present, the buyers will need to use a licensed professional to delead any high-risk activities. Buyers may also attend a low moderate risk workshop for owners to do their own low and moderate risk deleading at the property. Buyers will need some carpentry skills in order to do this work on their own. They cannot scrape chipping or peeling paint once its determined to be lead, this would be considered a high risk activity. This low moderate rule allows them to remove, replace and cover areas that have lead paint upon completion of a certified workshop given by a licensed lead paint inspector.

We are working with a household right now with a child under 6 who planned to apply for the grant funds of \$4,000 available for FTHB through the Northampton CDBG Program. We have been assisting this household for 11 months in hopes of them finding an affordable home for sale. We assisted the household with planning, savings and strategizing to get an accepted offer; including trying to find available homes that may not be listed with real estate agents. We had the family write a letter about themselves to try and compel the homeowners to accept their offer over investor buyers or other buyers who could afford other homes in the market.

Due to a multiple offer situation on the property they are buying, they have decided not to test for lead because they do not want to upset the seller and at this point only have an accepted offer and not a fully signed contract with the seller. I have explained their right under the MA Mandatory disclosure and even pointed out on the form that they have a right to inspect for lead. They are moving forward and not applying for the grant due to the multiple offers situation and they are worried about getting in to a signed contract with the seller.

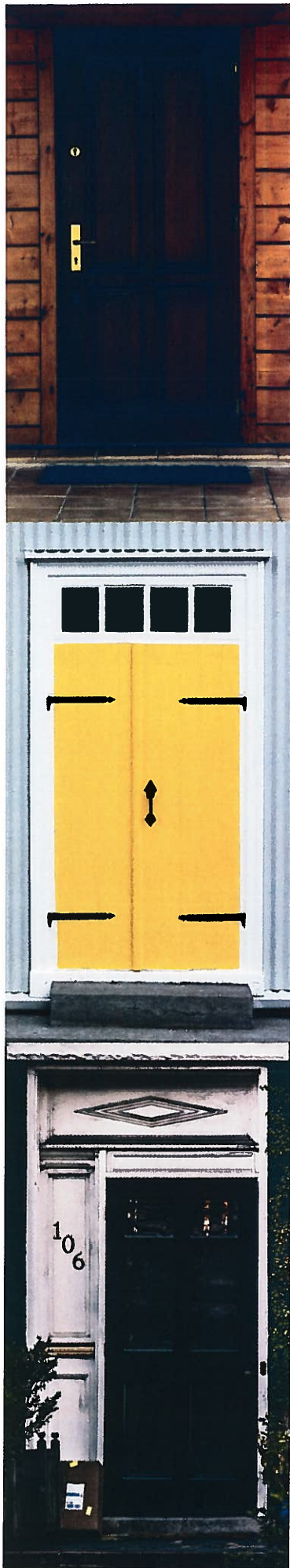
Last fall, we had the same situation on a purchase in Leeds. We had worked with the household off and on for several years. They finally had an accepted offer and I reminded them of the lead paint guidelines of the program. They declined to inspect for lead due to a multiple offer situations and not wanting to rock the boat with the seller. We had 2 additional households with this same scenario in Florence during 2018.

Part of the issue is the real estate culture in Hampshire County that requires the buyers to inspect the property prior to entering into a purchase and sales agreement. At this point, they only have a signed accepted offer to purchase and this document may be binding or non-binding depending on the real estate office who helped the buyer fill it out at the time of the offer. If buyers entered into a purchase and sales agreement before inspecting the property, they would have their full rights to inspect without fear of the seller not signing the purchase agreement. They would not feel like they may never get a purchase and sales signed by the seller due to lead paint.

Valley Community Development staff can only explain the inspection process and the rights of the buyers as far as lead paint inspections are concerned. We encourage them to speak to their attorney about lead paint testing and their rights. We recommend that they file complaints if they feel the seller or the realty company has discouraged them from exercising their right to inspect for lead paint. Unfortunately, due to a very tight and competitive housing market the buyers are just going to go along with the agent and seller and not rock the boat to keep their deal together.

Valley Community Development Staff will bring this up to the local real estate board. This culture only exists in Hampshire and Franklin Counties. Hampden County buyers sign a purchase and sales contract first, and then inspect the property. Why are we not protecting the buyer's right to inspect for lead paint in the Hampshire County market?

DANNA CABANA, COUNSELOR  
VCDL HOMEOWNERSHIP CENTER  
WRITTEN COMMENTS SUBMITTED -  
CDBG PUBLIC HEARING  
2.13.19



Please join the Northampton Housing Partnership and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to hear about and provide feedback on the findings of our new report:

## **Unlocking Opportunity: An Assessment of Barriers to Fair Housing in Northampton**

**Where:** Northampton Council on Aging  
67 Conz Street, Northampton

**When:** May 22, 7-8:30 pm

**Who:** All are welcome!

Childcare will be provided. Please contact [acurtis@pvpc.org](mailto:acurtis@pvpc.org) if you are interested in receiving a reimbursement for public transit. Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP at <https://unlockingopportunitynh.eventbrite.com>

***We need your input to ensure that the  
housing needs of our community are  
met!***



# The Network at Work: Providers and Legislators Gather in Partnership to End Homelessness

Yesterday, on June 10, 2019, close to 200 people gathered at Holyoke Community College for the Network's 3rd annual Housing/Homelessness Resource Fair. Over 75 providers from across the four Western counties, along with state agencies, offered information and over 100 other providers arrived to collect it.

The morning kicked off with a brief program welcoming over a dozen state legislators and mayoral offices. HCC President Christina Royal provided the first welcome, then Representative Aaron Vega of Holyoke, then MA Department of Housing and Community Development Assistant Undersecretary Jane Banks and finally Network Director Pamela Schwartz introduced each legislator.

Pictured from left to right in the photo below: Rep. Aaron Vega, Rep. Lindsay Sabadosa, Rep. Jose Tosado, Rep. Dan Carey (second row), Senator Anne Gobi, HCC President Christina Royal (second row), Rep. Carlos Gonzalez, Senator Jo Comerford, Rep. Natalie Blais and Rep. Mindy Domb, along with aides from the offices of Rep. Paul Mark (Adrienne Nunez), Senator Adam Hinds (Jon Gould, not pictured) and Senator Jim Welch ( Jennifer Hayes, not pictured).



We thanked our legislative delegation for their tremendous commitment to policies and funding priorities that will prevent and end homelessness. We demonstrated the impact of those funding priorities with some of the outcomes of the region's work projected [here](#).

We also called out the Network's commitment to address racial inequity in ending homelessness, noting the 3-part training series (led by national trainer Marc Dones) that has just come to a close. We know that with the significant over-representation of African-American and Latinx populations among people experiencing homelessness in our region (and across the nation), we have serious transformational system work to do and we are underway. This commitment of time, energy and resources to this challenge will continue next year and beyond.



# 256 Pleasant Street Northampton, Massachusetts



## Get an application today by visiting

[www.wayfindersma.org/lumberyard](http://www.wayfindersma.org/lumberyard) or [www.valleycdc.com](http://www.valleycdc.com)  
or by contacting  
[leaseup@wayfindersma.org](mailto:leaseup@wayfindersma.org) or 413.233.1705

### The Lumber Yard

55 One, Two, and Three Bedroom Apartments  
Ready for Occupancy Spring 2019.

A co-development between Valley Community Development and Way Finders. Offering access to the cultural, commercial, educational, and transportation opportunities of a small, vibrant city, The Lumber Yard apartments highlight the values and ideals of the surrounding community. The former Northampton Lumber Company property is being transformed into 55 one, two, and three-bedroom apartments with approximately 5,400 square feet of commercial space on Pleasant Street.

On-site services include laundry facilities, a property management office, limited resident parking, small playground and courtyard, a community room and easy access to Valley Community Development's homeownership and small business services at its new Holyoke Street offices.

### Features of The Lumber Yard include:

- Heat, hot water, cooking, and electricity included in rent
- 14 one-bedroom apartments
- 34 two-bedroom apartments
- 7 three-bedroom apartments
- Close to bike path
- Laundry facilities on-site
- Private meeting/function space available for resident use
- 5 fully wheelchair-accessible apartments equipped for the hearing-impaired
- 2 additional apartments equipped for the hearing-impaired
- Non-smoking
- PVTA bus stop nearby
- Amtrak platform nearby
- Limited on-site parking

Valley  
Community  
Development



[www.valleycdc.com](http://www.valleycdc.com)  
30 Market Street, Northampton, MA  
413.586.5855  
FAX: 413.586.7521



[www.wayfindersma.org](http://www.wayfindersma.org)  
155 Pleasant Street, Northampton, MA  
413.233.1700 800.332.9667  
FAX: 413.731.8723 TDD: 413.233.1699







**City of  
Northampton**

Margaret Keller <pkeller@northamptonma.gov>

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## OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATION - The Lumber Yard Apartments

1 message

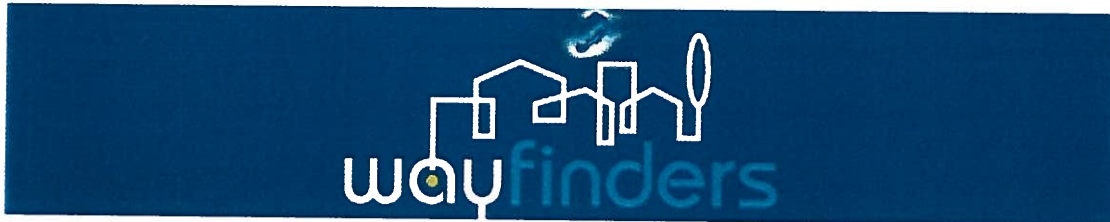
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**Way Finders** <info@wayfindersma.org>

Thu, Jun 13, 2019 at 2:46 PM

Reply-To: info@wayfindersma.org

To: pkeller@northamptonma.gov



**You're Invited to The Lumber Yard's Open House Celebration!**



Please join us for an open house celebration of The Lumber Yard. On the site of the former Northampton Lumber Company, Valley Community Development and Way Finders have co-developed a mixed-use property that provides Northampton with 55 new one, two, and three-bedroom affordable homes and 5,400 square feet of street-level commercial space. Located at 256 Pleasant Street, The Lumber Yard reflects the values and ideals of the community, and provides walkable access to downtown Northampton, public transportation, Amtrak, and the rail trail.

**Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup>**

**1-3pm**

**The Lumber Yard**

**256 Pleasant Street**

**Northampton, MA**

**Public Lots and Street Parking are Available**

**Refreshments will begin at 12:30**

The celebration will begin with remarks from Valley Community Development's Executive Director, Joanne Campbell, followed by Mayor David Narkewicz, Janelle Chan, Undersecretary of DHCD, Roger Herzog, from CEDAC, Peter Gagliardi from Way Finders, and others.

Following the speakers, we will conduct a tour of the building, giving you a first-hand opportunity to view all it has to offer to the residents and to appreciate the goodwill and hard work that built The Lumber Yard.

RSVP to Elizabeth Levesque at [elevesque@wayfindersma.org](mailto:elevesque@wayfindersma.org) or at 413-233-1724, by June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We look forward to seeing you there!



family.neighborhood.community.

322 Main Street, Suite 1, Springfield, MA 01105-2403 • 413.233.1500  
800.332.9667 • FAX: 413.731.8723 • TDD: 413.233.1699 • [www.wayfindersma.org](http://www.wayfindersma.org)



Way Finders | 322 Main Street, Springfield, MA 01105

Unsubscribe [pkeller@northamptonma.gov](mailto:pkeller@northamptonma.gov)

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GAZETTE DP.FP  
MAY 2019

## **The Importance of Housing Stability**

Policy makers often talk about homelessness and affordable housing but they ignore the critical importance of housing stability. Without stability, families can face terrible consequences like eviction, which has enduring effects. Evicted people struggle to obtain basic necessities like finding food, clothing and medicine, and often suffer from depression. Housing instability can also make it more difficult to find and hold jobs, as well as lead to frequent school moves, high rates of absenteeism, and low test scores among children. Housing affects almost everything.

People with low and moderate income living from pay check to pay check are at highest risk of experiencing housing instability. In Northampton alone it is estimated that 53 % of families and individuals are rent burdened or spending more than 30% of their limited income on rent. Even for tenants in subsidized or public housing, who pay between 30-40% of their household income towards rent, scramble to juggle their various bills and expenses and ensure that rent gets paid. Oftentimes, the need to prioritize payment of unexpected expenses such as car repair or medical bills or funeral expenses can result in an eviction for non-payment of rent.

Tenants who are evicted for non-payment of rent are often rendered homeless, and those who are evicted from subsidized or public housing are not eligible for state-funded shelter anywhere in the Commonwealth.

For these reasons Northampton's Housing Partnership, a mayoral appointed board of volunteers charged with identifying and addressing the city's affordable housing needs, designed and obtained Community Preservation funds to support a Community Housing Support Services Project administered by the Center for Human Development (CHD). For the last several years CHD staff have provided the following services to tenants at risk of eviction for non-payment of rent in Northampton: budget counseling and financial literacy; income maximization to find employment and obtain needed food, health, child care or other eligible benefits; referral to social service and mental health agencies; and assisting with the timely payment of rent.

Other programs already serving tenants in Northampton include the Tenancy Preservation Program (TPP) which helps tenants, including families with children with disabilities, facing eviction as a result of behavior related to a disability (e.g. mental illness, developmental disability, substance abuse disorder, aging related impairments). TPP works with the property owner and tenant to determine whether the disability can be reasonably accommodated and the tenancy preserved. Another agency, the SRO Outreach Project is dedicated to making linkages to services and improving living conditions and enriching the lives of tenants residing in Northampton single room occupancy units. The outreach worker assists residents with housing issues, medical issues, benefits, legal concerns, food and clothing. The program also offers opportunities for residents to build social networks.

Community Legal Aid also provides eviction prevention services. These programs are coordinated and do not duplicate services which is essential given that their staffing and funding

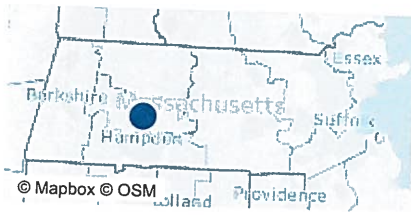
is inadequate to meet the need. In order to avoid eviction it is very important that people contact these programs as soon as they experience payment or other difficulties before they are taken to Housing Court. On the City of Northampton's website, [northamptonma.gov](http://northamptonma.gov), (under "Boards and Commissions", the Housing Partnership) contact information is listed for these services.

But in addition to all of this good work, more needs to be done to further address the city's affordable housing needs. For this reason the Northampton Housing Partnership and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission are conducting a community engagement process, entitled "Unlocking Opportunity/ An Assessment of Barriers to Housing Choice in Northampton" that seeks to identify patterns of racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty, issues of housing instability, and also analyze disparities of housing opportunities regardless of race, color, religion, sex, familial status, disability, national origin, marital status, age, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, military or veteran status, ancestry, and housing subsidies/rental assistance/public assistance. A 1-3 year Action Plan will then be developed to address identified needs. There will be a presentation of this study's findings at a public session to be held on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Senior Center on Conz St., Northampton.

If you are interested in supporting our efforts to further improve housing affordability and accessibility in Northampton, please contact Peg Keller, the Housing and Community Development Planner, at [pkeller@northamptonma.gov](mailto:pkeller@northamptonma.gov) or join us on the first Monday of each month from 5:30-7:00 p.m. on the second floor of City Hall. Our meetings are open to the public and all are welcome.

*Northampton Housing Partnership members who contributed to writing this guest column are Jim Reis, Gordon Shaw, Julio Alves, Richard Abuza, Patrick Boughan, Rev. Todd Weir, Kyla Prior, Mark Goggins, Edgardo Cancel, Carmen Juno, Rebecca Lockwood, Alex Jarret, and Housing and Community Development Senior Planner Peg Keller*

# 3 County CoC Community Point in Time Counts • 2018



Choose a community to view local counts by household type, project type, and population type.

Northampton

## Overall Counts

Overall Count

143

Individuals

75

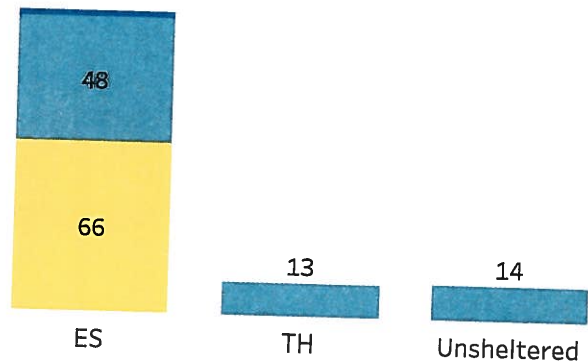
Persons in Families

66

## By Project Type

	ES	TH	Unshelt..
Individuals	48	13	14
Persons in Families	66		
Child Only HH	2		

Child Only HH Individuals Persons in F..



## By Population Type

Chronic homeless

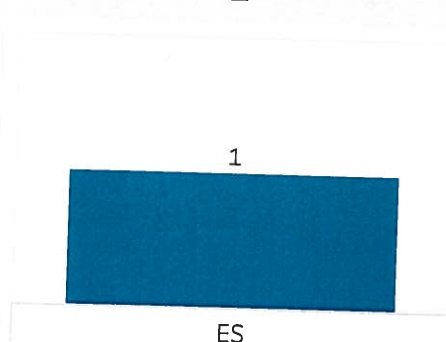
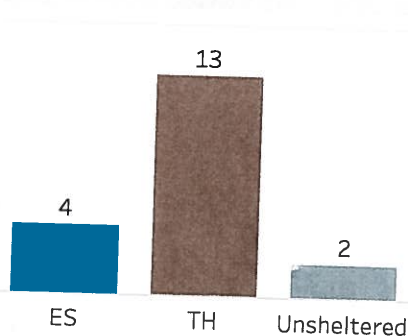
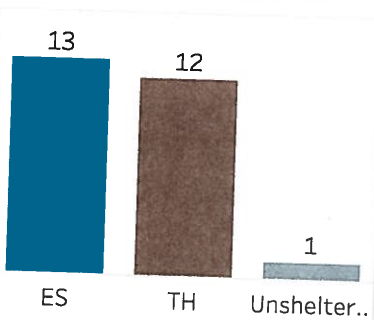
26

Veterans

19

Youth

1







## Winter Shelter Report

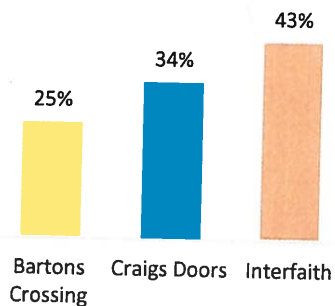
November 2018

	CoC	Bartons Crossing	Craigs Doors	Interfaith
<b>Operations data</b>				
Number of guests	143	36	49	62
Number of beds	70	20	28	22
Bednights	1366	230	401	735
Utilization	65%	38%	48%	111%
Avg Guests per Bed	2.04	1.80	1.75	2.82
Avg LOS (nights)	10	6	8	12
New entries	0	0	0	0
Administrative exits*	0	0	0	0
Stayed at > 1 shelter	3%	3%	10%	6%
<b>Guest characteristics</b>				
Chronic	25%	3%	24%	25%
Veteran	6%	6%	4%	8%
Young Adult	12%	22%	6%	10%
Female/LGBTQ	30%	31%	27%	32%
POC	36%	22%	39%	42%
Entered from Street	31%	25%	37%	31%

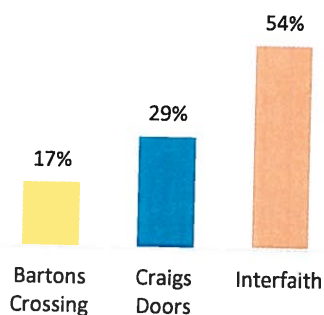
\*The person has not stayed in a bed for 60 days or more

### Total Guests: 143 persons

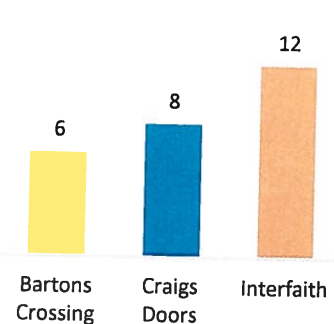
Percent of guests



Bednights





Avg LOS (days)



Contact [amiller.rotondi@gmail.com](mailto:amiller.rotondi@gmail.com) for more information

## System Performance Measures Overview

# Summary of SPM Report Data

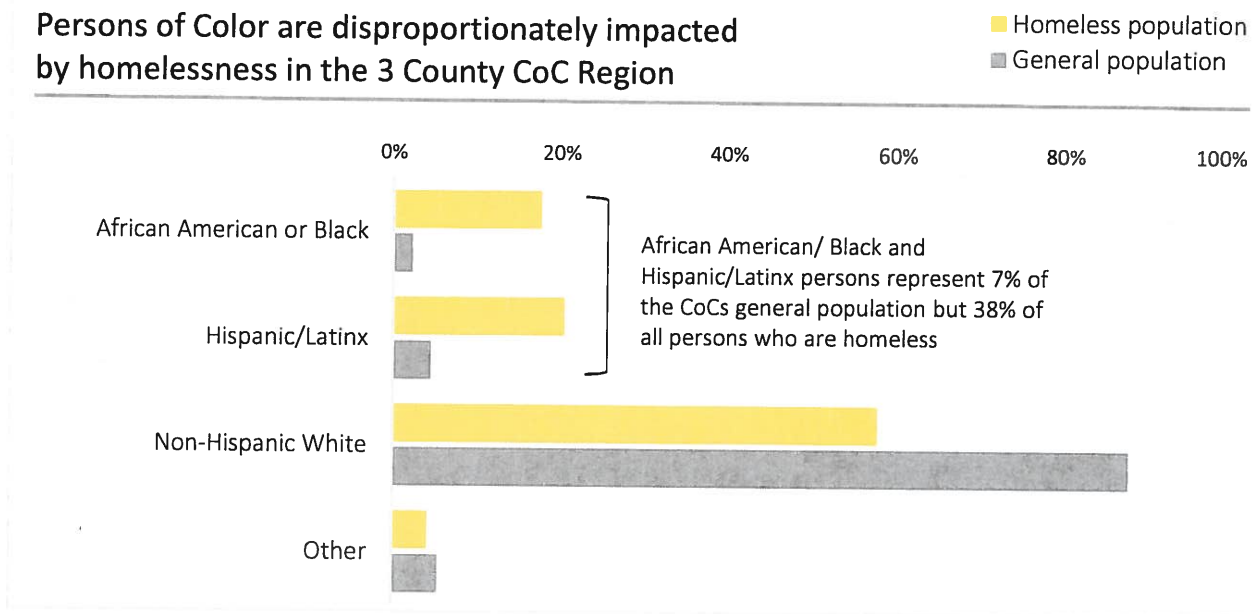
 Moving in the **right** direction  
 Moving in the **wrong** direction

System performance measure	2018 Submission	2017 Submission	
<b>Number of persons who are homeless</b>			
Point in Time Count	557 persons	653 persons	↓
Annual Count (HMIS only)	1668 persons	1706 persons	↓
<b>Length of time homeless</b>			
Average (days)			
Emergency shelter only	71	77 days	↓
Overall	100	135 days	↓
Median (days)			
Emergency shelter only	47	44 days	↑
Overall	74	66 days	↑
<b>Successful exits to/retention of PH</b>			
Shelter and RRH (exits only)	36%	40%	↓
PSH	93%	88%	↑
Overall	50%	50%	→
<b>Returns to homelessness</b>			
Exited originally from shelter (ES, TH)	16%	17%	↓
Exited originally from PH	8%	7%	↑
Overall	13%	16%	↓
<b>New entries to the CoC system</b>			
Entries to shelter (ES, TH)	1081 persons	1090 persons	↓
Entries to housing (RRH, PH)	84 persons	109 persons	↓
Overall	1165 persons	1199 persons	↓
<b>Growth in work/income (CoC-funded TH, PSH)</b>	30%	38%	↓

## Racial Disparities and Homelessness in the 3 County CoC: Part I

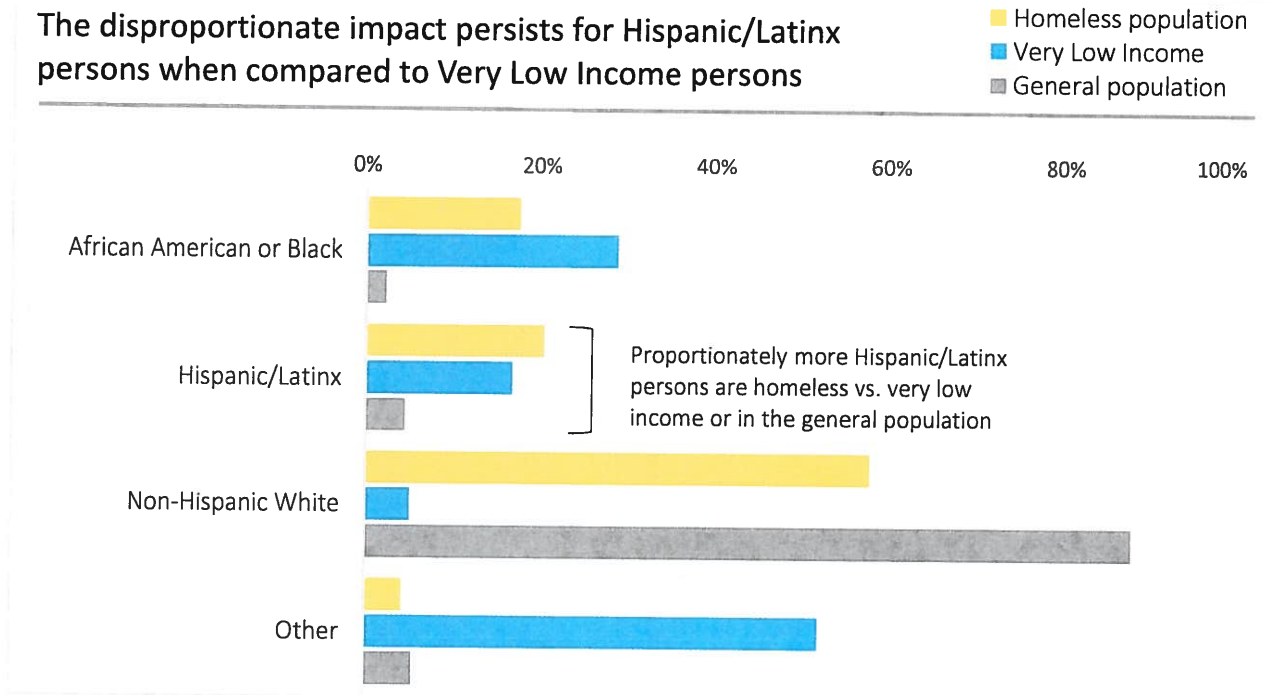
3 County CoC HMIS data reveals disparities in the rate of homelessness by racial/ethnic groups. The racial disparities analysis compared the representation of racial/ethnic groups among all homeless persons to their representation in the local general population.

### Persons of Color are disproportionately impacted by homelessness in the 3 County CoC Region



Persons with Very Low Incomes (at or below 50% of poverty) are at greatest risk for homelessness. When comparing the homeless population to the VLI population, only the over-representation of Hispanic/Latinx persons persists.

### The disproportionate impact persists for Hispanic/Latinx persons when compared to Very Low Income persons



## Data and Methods

HMIS data for FY2017 was used to examine the representation of racial and ethnic groups among all persons who stayed in CoC emergency shelter or transitional housing. This data was compared to census data (5 year estimates) as reported in the American Community Survey for Berkshire, Franklin, and Hampshire Counties combined. The final data derived through the analysis is below.

Race/ethnicity estimates by poverty status are reported for income at 50% ≤ poverty (VLI); 100% of poverty; and ≤ 125% of poverty. Only VLI data could be used for this analysis because reported margins of error were too great for the other two poverty groups.	All groups	Homeless population	Very Low Income	General population
	American Indian/Alaskan	1.4%	13.0%	0.2%
	Asian	0.4%	8.0%	3.1%
	Black/African American	17.6%	28.7%	2.3%
	Hispanic/Latinx	20.4%	16.8%	4.5%
	Multiracial	1.1%	9.3%	2.0%
	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0.4%	4.0%	0.1%
	Non-Hispanic White	57.8%	5.1%	87.7%
	Some other race	0.9%	17.6%	0.1%

**Part II of the Racial Disparities Report will examine disparities in project enrollments and successful housing outcomes. Part II will be posted to the Wiki and distributed via email.**

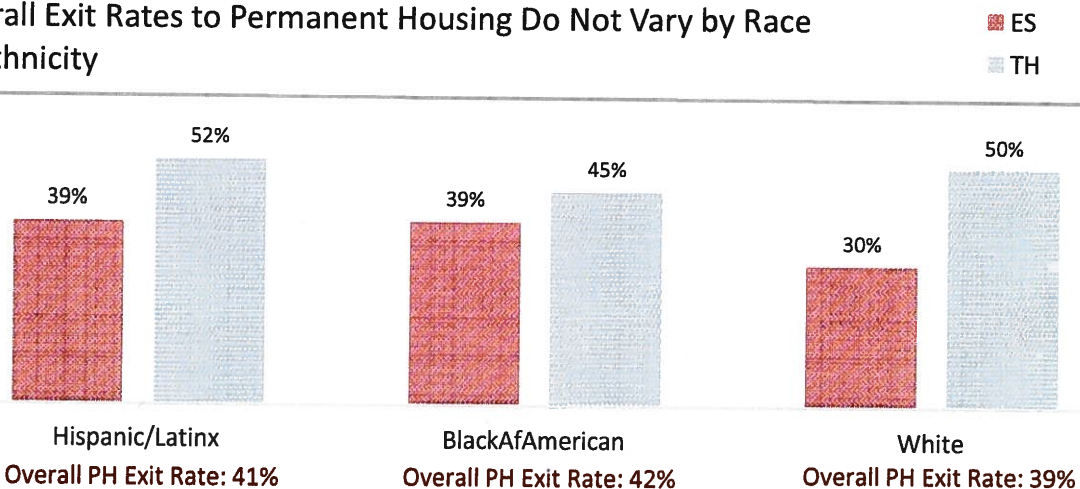
## Racial Disparities and Homelessness in the 3 County CoC: Part II

### Housing Enrollments and Outcomes

Part I of the Racial Disparities report revealed that homelessness disproportionately impacts persons of color within the 3 County CoC region. **Part II examines whether racial disparities exist in housing outcomes among folks who stay in CoC shelters and programs.**

The most apparent way to assess disparities in housing outcomes consists of examining the rate of successful housing outcomes by race/ethnicity, where a successful housing outcome is defined as self-reported exit to permanent housing. Doing so reveals that overall PH exit rates are the same or similar between groups, with slight variations when looking specifically at ES or TH.

Overall Exit Rates to Permanent Housing Do Not Vary by Race or Ethnicity



### A Housing Enrollment Gap?

A second method for assessing disparities consists of examining PH enrollments by race and ethnicity. PH enrollees represent a subset of all persons who enter shelter – a subset that excludes those who self-resolve and those who do not want CoC-sponsored PH, among others. Nevertheless, in a perfectly equitable system we may see that persons who enroll in PH are representative of all persons who enter shelter. Do we?

Not quite. While there is not a noticeable enrollment gap for people who are Black/African American, there does seem to be a

Race/Ethnicity	Shelter Occupancy	PH Occupancy	Enrollment Gap	Interpretation: For every 10 persons who enter shelter...
BlackAfAmerican	17.3%	16.4%	-1%	9 will enroll in CoC PH
Hispanic/Latinx	20.1%	14.4%	-6%	7 will enroll in CoC PH
Non-Hispanic White	57.0%	65.3%	8%	11 will enroll in CoC PH
Other	3.3%	2.5%	-1%	8 will enroll in CoC PH

gap for persons who are Hispanic/Latinx, while persons who are Non-Hispanic White are slightly over-represented. In fact, Latinx persons are 40% less likely to enter PH than their White counterparts.



**Caveat.** The phenomenon described above may be due to the over-representation of Hispanic/Latinx families with children in the CoC shelter system, when coupled with the fact that the CoC has minimal permanent housing for families. Of all CoC-sponsored PH, only 13% is for families with children. However, PH for families *is* available through DHCD RRH; enrollment data is collected by DHCD rather than the CoC. We would want to disaggregate our data by household type prior to drawing conclusions, since we may be observing a **measurement** problem (due to the lack of DHCD RRH enrollment data) rather than a racial disparities problem.

## Data and Methods

**Data Source.** 3 County CoC HMIS data for FY2017 was used for this analysis. Data for families with children and adult-only households was included; it should be noted that these two groups are not especially homogenous, and examining outcomes at the household level may be a worthwhile follow-up to this analysis.

**Methods and Limitations.** Successful exit rates are determined by summing up all exits to permanent housing and dividing this by all exits to anywhere: PH Exits / All Exits. This HUD-approved approach does have limitations: Seasonal shelters have high rates of missing data for the self-reported [Destination] field; reported [Destinations] may be immediate destinations rather than true destinations; and the last destination of the reporting period, used for the analysis, may not actually be the person's last destination if, for example, they returned to shelter 2 weeks after the reporting period and then exited again! These limitations should be considered when interpreting the outcomes data.

**PH Definition.** In the Enrollment analysis, PH includes CoC-funded PSH, other local PSH, PH for homeless persons without supportive services, and Rapid Rehousing.

## Next Steps

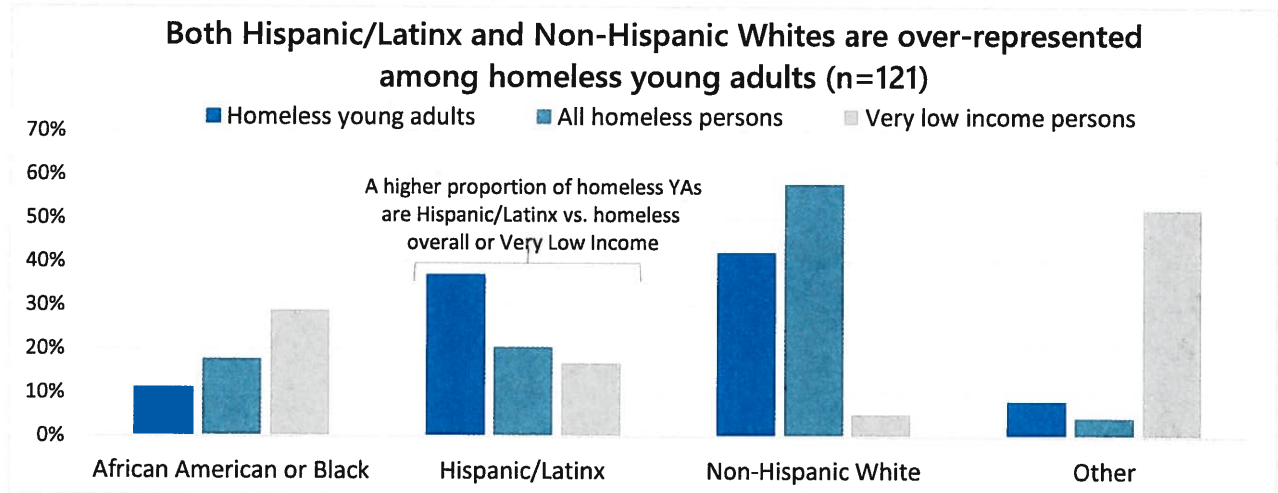
After reviewing the baseline racial disparities analysis, the CoC Board has endorsed a number of action steps. Ongoing review and assessment of these activities will occur during quarterly Board meetings.

- **Racial Equity Training.** Our CoC Board member who chairs the regional Health Equity Committee will provide a regional training for stakeholders, Board members, providers and allies.
- **Fair Housing Training.** The CoC will build on the first annual Fair Housing Training, offering the training again while expanding outreach and publicity to widen its audience.
- **Additional data analyses,** specifically related to 1) assessing the provision and outcomes of homeless services at the household and priority population level; and 2) coordinated entry services.
- **An assessment of the Board and CoC decision-making bodies** regarding representation and diversity, with subsequent action planning.

Contact Andrea Miller for more information: [amiller.rotondi@gmail.com](mailto:amiller.rotondi@gmail.com)

## Racial Disparities Among Homeless Young Adults in the 3 County CoC

HMIS data for FY2017 reveals that among homeless young adults 18 - 24 yrs old, Hispanic/Latinx young people and Non-Hispanic White young people are disproportionately impacted by homelessness when compared to their Very Low Income (VLI) housed counterparts who are living in Berkshire, Franklin and Hampshire Counties. Significantly, Hispanic/Latinx young people seem more likely to be homeless than other racial/ethnic groups, comprising 37% of the young adult homeless population compared to 20% of the overall homeless population.

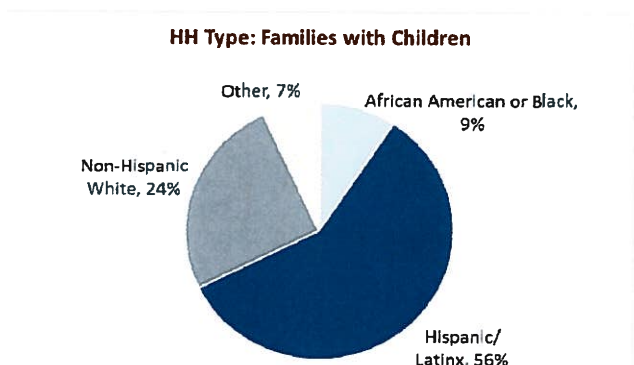
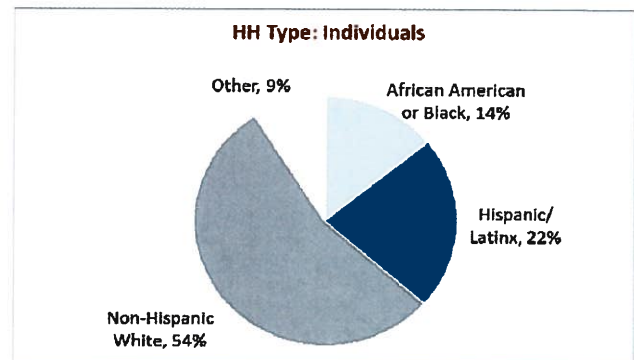


## Racial Disparities and Household Type

The brunt of the disproportionate impact of homelessness among Hispanic/Latinx young adults is born by families, i.e., where the family Head of Household (HoH) is a Latinx woman between 18 and 24 years old.

Among all young adult households who were homeless in FY2017, 37% were Hispanic/Latinx even though this group comprises only 4.5% of the region's general population and 17% of the Very Low Income population, or those living in deep poverty.

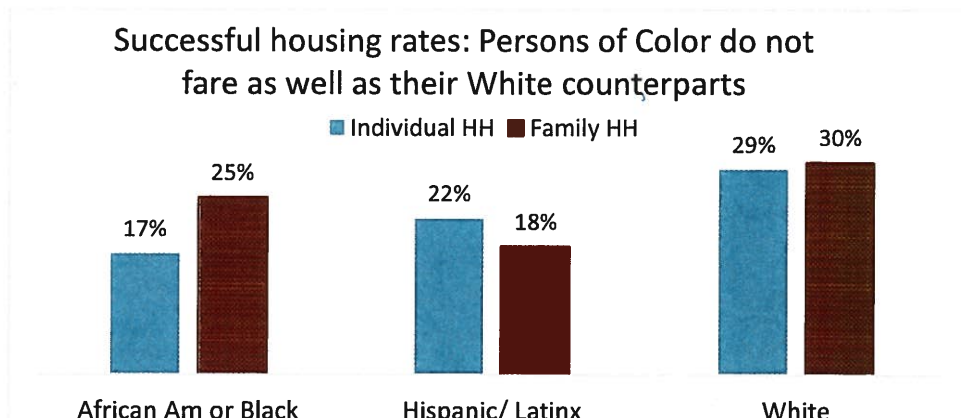
Among the 37% of households who are Hispanic or Latinx, the majority (63%) are young parents in households with children. Among these households, more than half have a Latinx HoH.



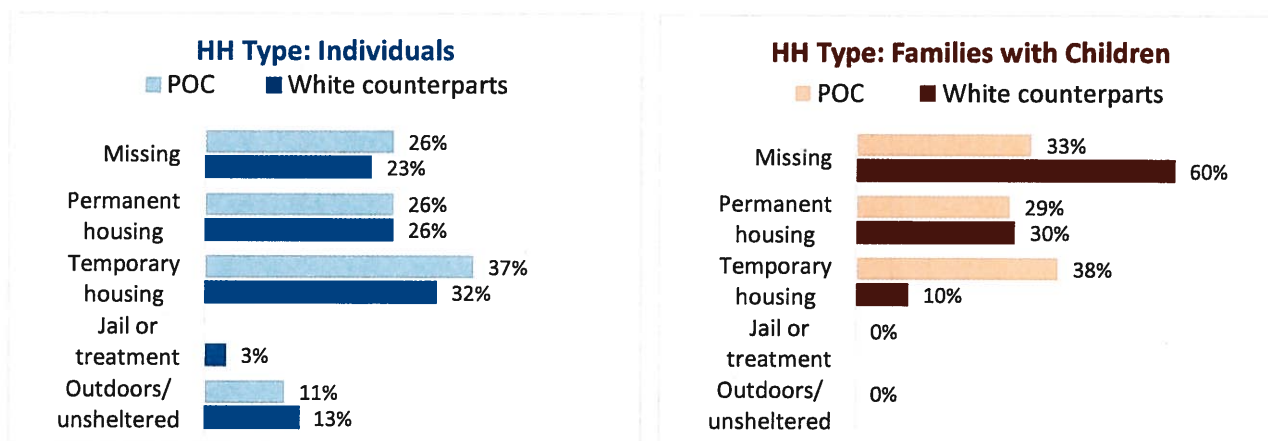
## Housing Outcomes

Some disparities emerge in the rate of successful housing outcomes (i.e., the exit rate to permanent housing) among homeless persons who are young adults. . This diverges from what is observed in the overall homeless adult population, though small sample sizes might be impacting the data.

African American/Black individuals were 30% less likely to exit to PH compared to their White counterparts while Hispanic/Latinx families were 35% less likely.



**Beyond permanent destinations.** Young adult Persons of Color were more likely to exit to a temporary housing situation compared to their White counterparts. Temporary situations include another emergency shelter, a hotel/motel, or doubling up with families or friends.



It appears that homelessness disproportionately impacts young adult Persons of Color because deep poverty disproportionately impacts Persons of Color in the CoC region. Even so, deep poverty does not explain the disparity in short-term housing outcomes for Hispanic/Latinx young adults presenting in individual or family households.

## Notes

- The ethnic group "Hispanic/Latinx" includes persons of Hispanic origin and persons of Latino/Latina origin. HMIS data does not provide the opportunity to disaggregate this by ethnonym.
- Missing data rates for the [Destination] field is high, especially for young adults in families. This leads to underestimates for all exit types. Missing data rates do not vary by race/ethnicity.



## Measure 1: Length of Time Homeless

**What:** Measures the cumulative length of time (LOT) spent homeless in emergency shelter, safe havens, and transitional housing.

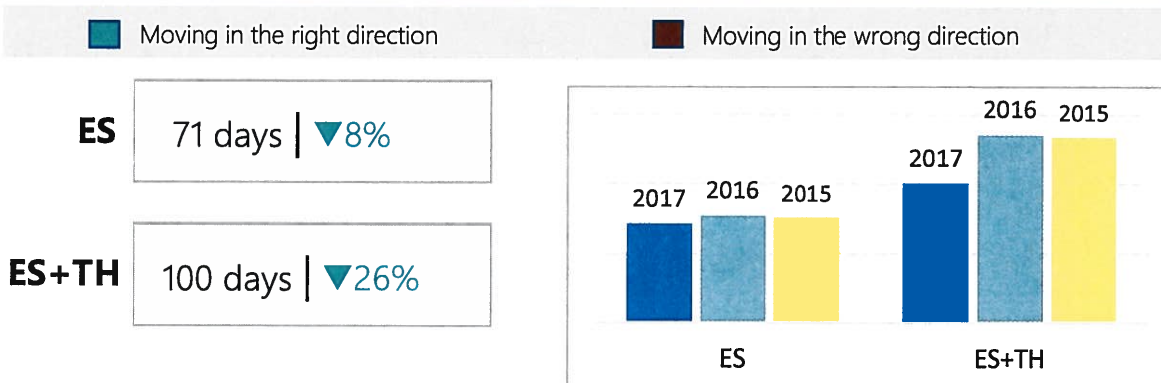
**Who:** All ES, SH, and TH guests who occupied a bed during the reporting year.

**Why?** Reduced LOT Homeless may indicate that the CoC is 1) more rapidly placing people into housing and 2) reducing/ preventing chronic homelessness.

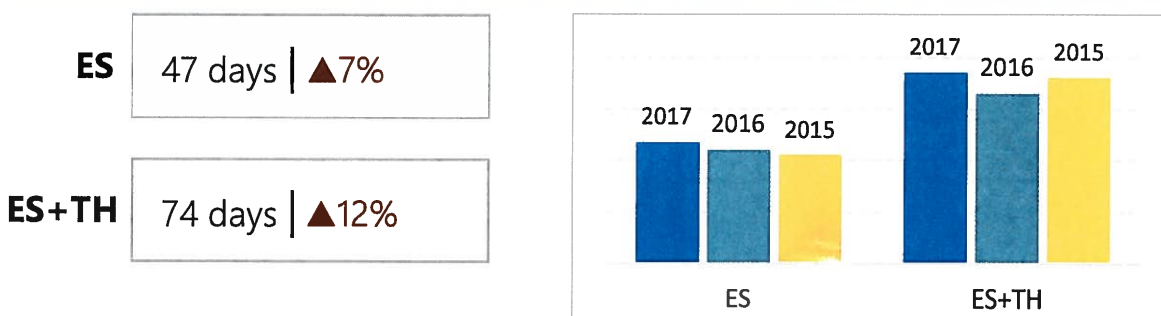
**CoC System Goal:** **Decreased** average LOT homeless among persons in TH; and **decreased** median LOT homeless among all sheltered persons, from year to year.

### Year 1 Outcome: ☀️☁️ Mixed bag

#### Average Length of Stay



#### Median Length of Stay



#### Considerations

- Single adults, families, and unaccompanied youth may have different LOS patterns but the SPM report aggregates all household types.
- The report only goes back to 2012. Households with a length of stay that began before this date have a truncated LOS. This would underestimate the average and median LOS.

## Measure 2: Returns to Homelessness

**What:** Measures the number and rate of persons who returned to homelessness within a 2 year period of time.

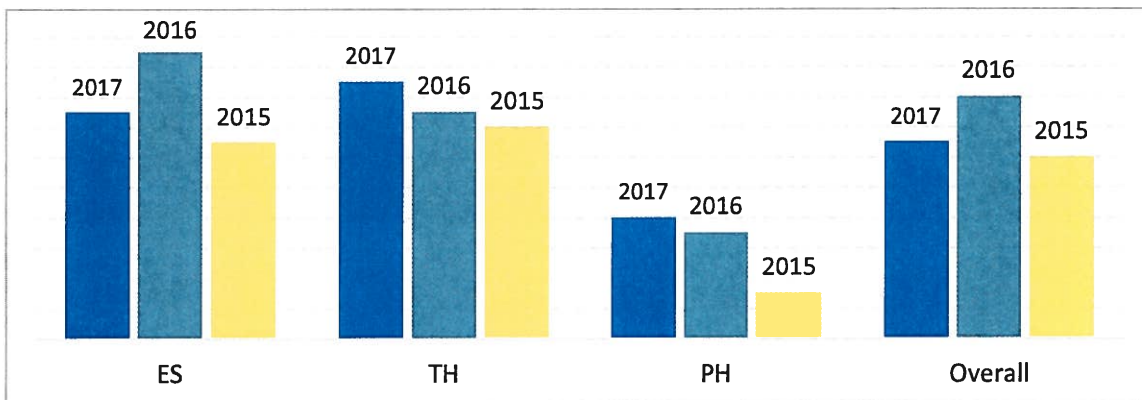
**Who:** Persons who left a CoC shelter or housing program for permanent housing during FY2014, but then re-entered a CoC shelter at some point during the subsequent 2 years.

**Why?** Reducing returns to homelessness suggests that the CoC is 1) making more effective placements to housing; and 2) providing effective stabilization supports.

**CoC System Goal:** **Decreased** rate of return to homelessness, from all project types.

### Year 1 Outcome: Decrease in Overall Return Rate

Returns to homelessness after exit to permanent housing



#### Considerations

- Exclusions include: 1) Persons who exited to PH prior to FY2013 but then returned; 2) persons who exited to PH in a different CoC, but then entered our CoC; and 3) persons who had no exit interview.
- Because of these exclusions, the rate of return may be an underestimate.

## Measure 3: Number of Persons Homeless

**What:** Measures the year-to-year change in the number of persons who are homeless within our CoC, annually and at a single point in time.

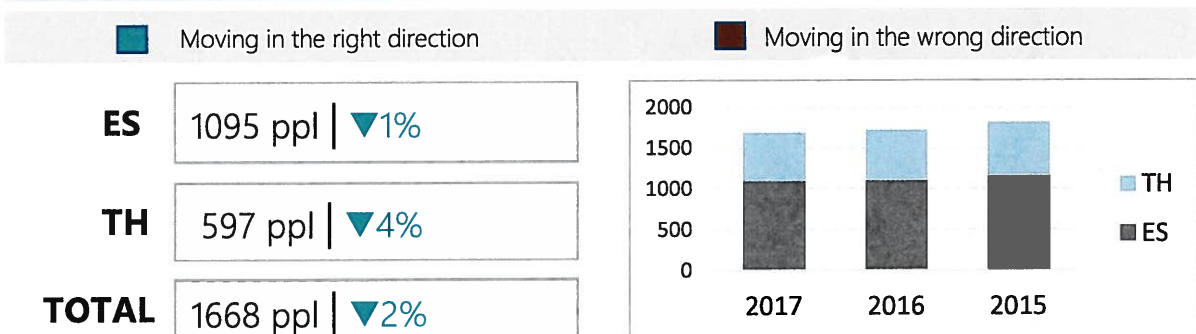
**Who:** Sheltered persons in the HMIS are included in the annual count. All homeless persons, including those in DV shelters or unsheltered, are included in the PIT count.

**Why?** The annual count provides a measure of the prevalence of homelessness in the region, once adjusted for the proportion of folks who are not in HMIS. The point in time count provides the proportion factor needed to calculate prevalence.

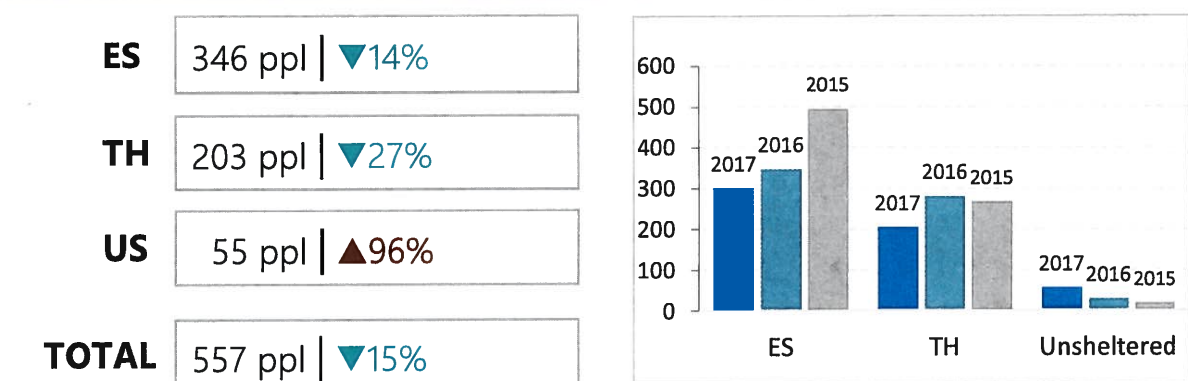
**CoC System Goal:** Decreased annual count and decreased point in time count among all groups (sheltered/unsheltered, families/individuals, chronic/veterans/youth).

### Year 1 Outcome: Annual and PIT Count Decreased

#### Annual Count



#### Point in Time Count



**Considerations:** The annual count excludes households that are not in the HMIS; thus it underestimates overall persons and some subpopulations such as DV survivors.

## Measure 4: Job and Income Growth

**What:** This measures the change in earned income, non-employment cash income, and total income for adults who participated in CoC-funded projects.

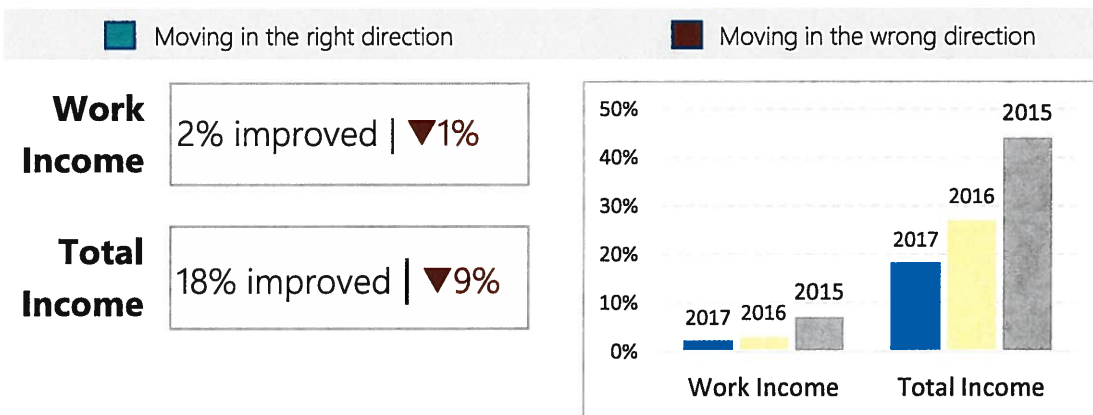
**Who:** Adults in CoC-funded TH or PSH projects who exited from the project during the year ("leavers") or who stayed more than 365 days ("stayers").

**Why?** Improved income leads to improved housing stability. The CoCs capacity to help project participants improve their income indicates its capacity to achieve (+) housing outcomes.

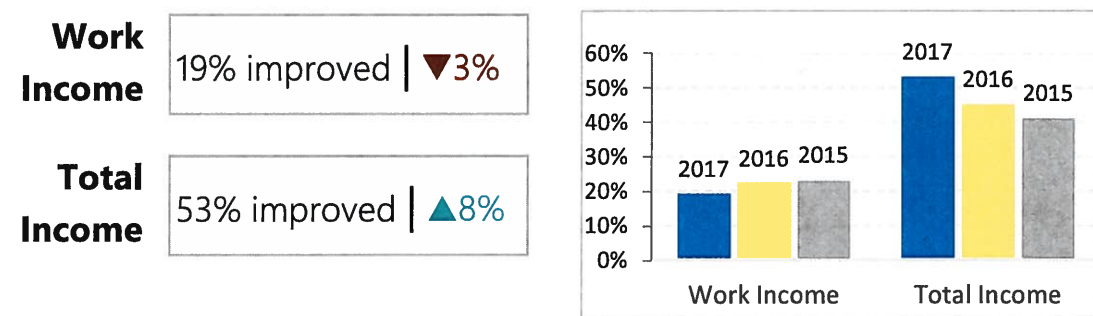
**CoC System Goal:** Increased earned income, non-employment income, and total income - either from project entry to annual follow up, or from project entry to exit

### Year 1 Outcome: ☁️ Most Goals Went Unmet

#### Improved Income Among Project Stayers



#### Improved Income Among Project Leavers



Considerations: Excludes households who did not exit but did not yet have 1 year of tenancy; and households residing in CoC projects not funded by HUD, which comprise the majority of CoC TH and PSH projects.

## Measure 5: First Time Homelessness

**What:** This measures the change in the number of persons who 1) entered CoC projects during FY2015 and who 2) had with no prior HMIS enrollments in the two years prior.

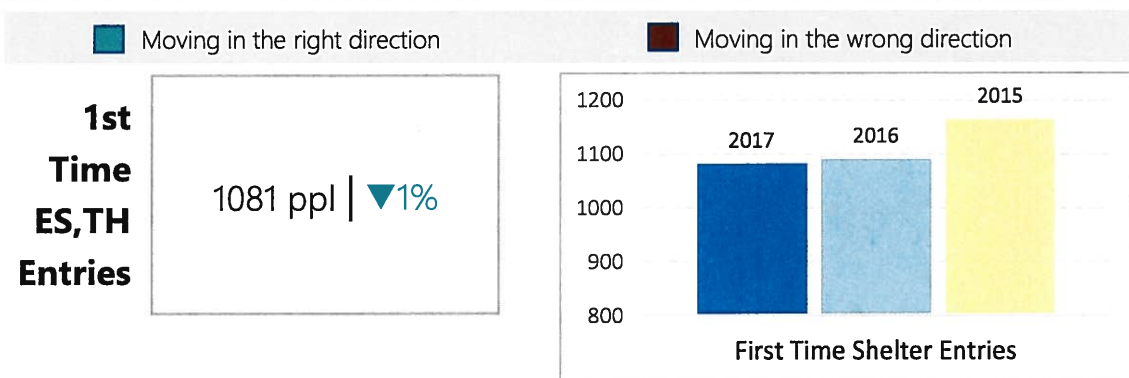
**Who:** Persons who entered CoC projects during FY2015, if those projects participate in HMIS.

**Why?** A reduction in new entries (a proxy measure for the incidence of homelessness), may indicate that the CoC is more effectively preventing homelessness within the region.

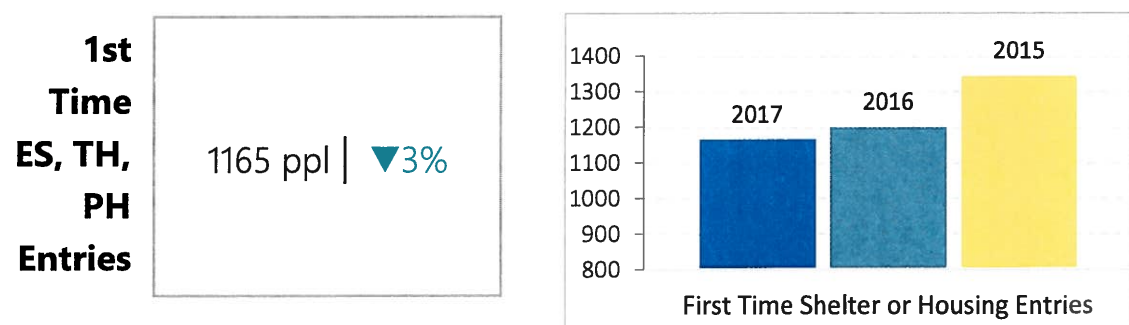
**CoC System Goal:** A reduction in new entries to the CoC System.

### Year 1 Outcome: Reduced Number of First Timers

#### First Time CoC Entries to Shelter



#### First Time CoC Entries to Shelter or Housing



Considerations: Excludes 1) Persons not in HMIS; 2) persons who had a CoC stay prior to FY2013 and then re-entered the CoC; and 3) persons whose prior stays were in some other CoC. Thus persons who have previous shelter stays are undercounted.



## Measure 7: Successful PH Outcome

**What:** This measures the change in successful placements to permanent housing destinations and, for persons already in permanent housing, housing retention.

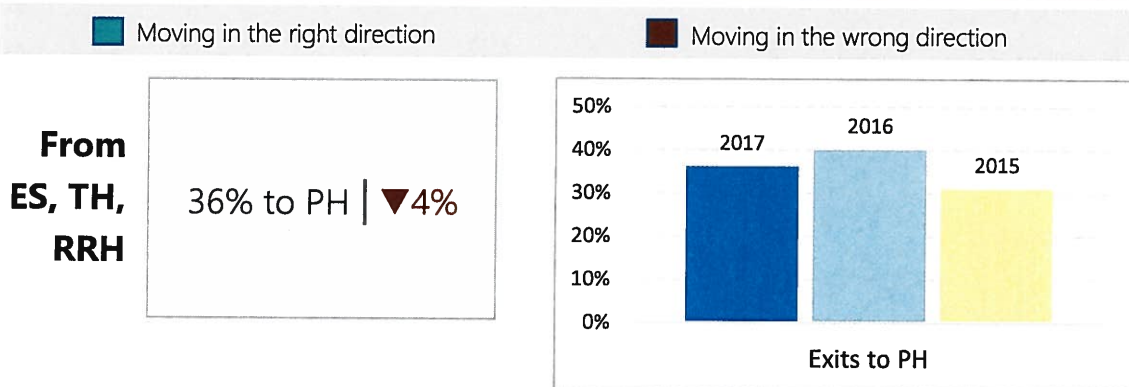
**Who:** All persons who exited ES, TH, or RRH during FY2015; and all persons who participated in PSH or Other Permanent Housing ("OPH").

**Why?** Exits to, and retention of, PH indicate successful housing outcomes.

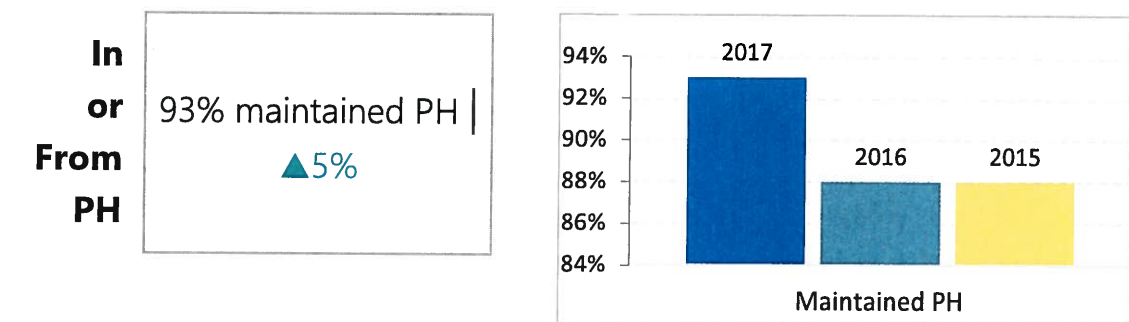
**CoC System Goal:** Increase the rate of placement to, or retention of, PH.

### Year 1 Outcome: ☁️🌞 **Mixed bag**

#### Exits from Shelter or RRH to Permanent Housing



#### PH Stability: Exits from Permanent Housing to PH, or retention of PH



Considerations: Persons who lacked exit interviews were excluded; thus improved data quality can impact outcome rates. Also note: This measure includes a metric for Street Outreach exit outcomes. We will have baseline data for this measure for next year's HUD report submission.